

AN AFTER SCHOOL HAUNTING

by
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FADE IN:

EXT. STEVE WALTZ'S HOUSE - FRONT PORCH - NIGHT

A menacing JACK-O'-LANTERN flickers on a raised porch of a modest tri-level home in a rural, wooded neighborhood.

JUSTIN (V.O.)
Halloween is supposed to be scary,
give ya goosebumps. -- Chills.

JUSTIN (17) sits, hugging a bowl of candy. At first sight one would think he's a clean-cut jock in a letterman jacket. However, he picks a joint from the fold of his ski cap which hides a mess of auburn hair.

JUSTIN (V.O.)
You don't need a menacing Jack-o'-
Lantern here. -- No cheesy sound
effects of the howling wind,
thunder crashing, or rabid dogs
barking...

He lights the joint from the pumpkin's candle and inhales deeply on it.

JUSTIN (V.O.)
...No chain saws or Freddy Krugers.
All you have to do is live. The
everyday is frightening enough...

Along the curbing, giggling COSTUMED CHILDREN suddenly freeze in their tracks. Wide-eyed and scared, they stare at Justin.

JUSTIN (V.O.)
...mostly for kids and teenagers.
We all grow up in the masks our
parents want us to wear. And when
we finally have the balls to take
them off, we put on another more
sinister version. Seems it just
gets scarier and scarier as we get
older.

The Children yank on each others costumes and sprint away.

JUSTIN (V.O.)
I don't blame them for running. --
I did. Understand, this house has a
past. A scary past, WAY before I
moved in. Though, I've added to its
Halloween legacy. -- See, it's a
legend here... here in Fairfield.

He wickedly grins while deeply inhaling on the joint.

The WIND howls, scraping the dead leaves along the road as we see his house from the street. Justin is but a black, ghostly figure on the porch next to the lit pumpkin.

JUSTIN (V.O.)

Three years ago, I was somewhat of a dick.

EXT. OLD HIGHWAY 9 - DAY

On a stark wintry day, bony oaks (draped in icicles) cover the snow laden remnants of an asphalt highway.

A rusted "Highway 9" sign warbles with the wind.

The road climbs a steep grade, disappearing in the trees.

TEENAGERS HOWL (O.S.)

EXT. FOREST PATH - DAY

A PAIR OF VANS SNEAKERS plod and slide urgently through the snow.

TEENAGE HOWLS AND BARKING (O.S.)

HEAVY PANTING with each running step over branches and ice.

JOCK 1 (O.S.)

The faggot's over here! C'mon!

EXT. OLD HIGHWAY 9 - DAY

JUSTIN (14) erupts, falling out of the forest on his hands and knees on the snowy highway.

A snow ball smacks the back of his head, taking off his ski cap revealing snot green, spiked hair. He's a relocated, Southern California skateboarding punk with a devilish smirk and melancholy eyes. A baby faced, Johnny Rotten.

Like a pack of wolves, JOSH (16) and TWO JOCKS (16), surround him.

Justin sneers at them as they each grip snow balls.

Justin stays on his knees keenly watching each one as they menacingly surround him.

JOSH
Fucking smart-ass punk.

A mischievous glimmer captures Justin's eyes.
An ice ball rips through the air and smashes Justin's nose.
Blood splatters across the lilac snow as Justin tumbles back.
Justin withers in pain while trying desperately to ward off
the hard balls with his flailing arms and legs.
Jock 1 grabs Josh's shoulder as he is about to throw.

JOCK 1
Dude, DUDE...STOP!

Josh and Jock 2 follow the other Jock's gaze. -- Fright
envelopes their faces.

A menacing male (STEVE 17), dressed like a terrorist in all
black (from drawn ski mask to boots) stands in contrast to
the snow fifty feet down the road. The bloody whites of his
eyes is the only facial feature seen.

JOCK 2
It's Steve!

The Teenagers split back in the woods leaving Justin in the
blood soaked snow.

He glances up from his blurred, swollen eyes and focuses on
the black figure inching menacingly towards him. Justin
passes out to darkness.

EXT. OLD HIGHWAY 9 - DAY

A snowboard sprays snow on Justin's body as it slides to a
halt.

BOBBI (14) focuses a digital recorder on him. She is a husky,
big-boned, slightly masculine girl with eyes of a
contemplative adult.

A sled slides to a halt next to her. It's RIAN (9), her ever
curious, bratty sister.

RIAN
Eww, who's he?

She takes off her goggles studying him.

RIAN
Hey, isn't he...

BOBBI
...our new neighbor.

He tries to rise wincing, holding his head in pain.

RIAN
Sorta cute.

BOBBI
He's messed up.

RIAN
Yuck, more like fucked up.

Bobbi smacks her head, putting down the recorder.

BOBBI
Watch your mouth...Get off your
sled.

A CELLULAR PHONE RINGS (O.S.)

Wincing, Justin pulls out a phone from his pants. He tries to read the caller ID.

Suddenly, he beats it down on the ice packed snow.

BOBBI
Wrong number?

JUSTIN
No, my Mom.

EXT. FOREST PATH - DAY

Bobbi strains pulling Justin on the sled. Rian follows carrying the snowboard.

Justin sits on the sled with snow cupped to his nose.

JUSTIN
I can walk.

BOBBI
Shut up, we're almost there.

RIAN
Like, like do you know Steve?

JUSTIN
I've only lived here a week.

BOBBI
...Enough time to get your ass
kicked.

RIAN
REAL-LEE, you don't know him?

JUSTIN
NO! Who's Steve? The top prick, in
the pecking order of pricks?

Bobbi tosses an angry glance back as she jerks the sled.

BOBBI
Don't yell at my sister. Or use
foul language in front of her...she
already cusses like an adult.

Rian plods beside him.

RIAN
Dude, you know, live with him.

A puzzled expression grabs him.

BOBBI
You probably sleep in his room.

JUSTIN
Huh?

RIAN
Steve's a ghost... Our ghost.

BOBBI
Your ghost.

JUSTIN'S MOTHER (O.S.)
JUSTY?! JUSTY!

They raise their eyebrows to him as he gathers himself up and
confronts Bobbi.

JUSTIN
Pretend you never saw me.

She lifts the camera.

BOBBI
Got it all right here.

JUSTIN'S MOTHER (O.S.)
JUSTY, WHERE ARE YOU?

He throws her a stern evil glare and runs off.

EXT. STEVE'S BACKYARD - DAY

BRIAN (40) strains, wobbling on a ladder while wiring flood lights. He is a gentle, pot-bellied computer nerd who still wears his University of Irvine faded sweatshirt. Empty cardboard boxes litter the patio.

JOYCE (O.S.)
He doesn't answer his phone.

JUSTIN'S MOTHER (JOYCE 38) leans from the forest line, searching the woods with her cellular. She's a frightened mouse of a woman, completely out of her SoCal tennis, walled environment.

BRIAN
He probably ran it over with his skateboard... like the last ten we bought him. Dear, can you help me? -
- Hold the ladder? (to himself) I'm a computer geek, not an electrician. Why is this the first priority?

JOYCE
There are no fences. You don't know who's watching us.

BRIAN
They, we don't need them. -- The forest is our wall.

JOYCE
Where's Justy? You have no idea what can be lurking in those woods. Wolves, bears -- crazy-men murderers.

A BULB POPS.

She screams as both jump, startled. Brian teeters and falls from the ladder into the snow.

Joyce kneels down comforting him.

TREE LIMBS RATTLE (O.S.) -- Joyce's eyes bug out in horror.

JOYCE

What's that? -- An animal?

Suddenly, Justin bursts from the woods hiding his swollen face.

BRIAN

It's our son.

She runs to Justin and pulls his hands away.

His face tightens from her touch.

JOYCE

What happened to your face?

JUSTIN

I fell, I fell on an icy road,
alright? Leave me alone.

He rips away and stomps in the house.

JUSTIN (O.S.)

You moved me here. -- The cell
broke too.

She cocks her head to Brian for fatherly assistance.

BRIAN

New environment, same ol' Justy.
Did you have his prescription
transferred over?

INT. STEVE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Justin slams the door behind him and locks it.

He falls back on his bed. The room is filled with posters of punk bands and skateboarders. Some moving boxes still remain.

BAM, BAM, BAM and the door knob rattles.

JOYCE (O.S.)

Justin, open this door right now!

He presses power on his X Box and grabs a guitar from "Guitar Hero."

PUNK MUSIC BLASTS as he rocks out in anger.

HALL

Joyce spins in motherly angst and storms away.

BEDROOM

Justin intensely focuses on the monitor bashing at the colored cords.

Suddenly, the music stops. -- A 70's POWER BALLAD takes over.

He studies the guitar and flips the game song back to punk.

He begins playing the song on the guitar.

Suddenly, it switches back to the same 70's ROCK BALLAD. Justin bangs on the X Box, but the ballad plays on. Justin is powerless and plays to the spirit's song while investigating his room for ghosts.

JUSTIN

Dude, you have wimpy taste in music.

EXT. STEVE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Justin sleeps in his darkened room.

BACKYARD FLOOD LIGHTS (from below, outside his window) pop on and cast shadows in his room.

He wakes covering his swollen face from the light. -- He peers out the window.

BACKYARD

It's dusted with fresh snow.

From the bedroom, Justin notices a single set of man's boot prints leaving the porch.

He follows them as they go to the forest's edge.

His mouth drops in wonder as he sees the back of the black figure.

THE BLACK FIGURE (STEVE) peers over his shoulder straight into Justin's heart.

Only the bloody whites of Steve's eyes are seen from his ski mask.

BEDROOM

Justin rips the curtains closed and dives in the covers.

Silence.

JUSTIN (O.S.)
This is my room?

EXT. BOBBI'S HOUSE - FRONT YARD - DAY

Bobbi and Rian are bundled up waiting on the porch.

A CAMERO speeds to a stop at the curb.

BOBBI'S MOTHER (mid 30's) hurriedly exits holding her pair of high heels. She's a middle-aged mess in crisis, wearing a leopard print skirt and nylons.

Like walking on coals, she tip toes quickly across the snow.

Rian covers Bobbi's mouth before she can spew the hatred raging in her eyes.

BOBBI'S MOTHER
Give me a minute -- Thanks Rian.
Thanks for helping her bite her
tongue.

She enters, closing the screen door with a slam.

EXT. STEVE'S DRIVEWAY - SUV - DAY

Joyce fiddles with the climate control in an SUV that is fogged up.

Justin opens the passenger door and drops in with his backpack (skateboard sticking out).

JOYCE
No need taking a skateboard to
school in this weather.

JUSTIN
It's more for protection than
ridin. -- Where's Dad? Why isn't he
taking me?

JOYCE
New job. His first day too...and we
have a meeting with the school
counselor.

JUSTIN
Need to warn them of me and my
A.D.D.

JOYCE

No, explain your medication

They awkwardly wait for the window to defrost. Justin is antsy pumping his knee.

JOYCE

Relocating is difficult on us all.
I know you liked California...

Justin switches the climate control to defrost.

Joyce raises her eyebrows to her mistake as the fog lifts.

JOYCE

We all liked California...

She nervously backs the car out of the drive.

JOYCE

...but, we needed to move to where
the jobs are. We're all going
through a tough transition period.

JUSTIN

The house is haunted.

She glares at him. -- She's frightened enough.

INT. STEVE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Brian rummages through Justin's room searching for something.

METAL HANGERS JINGLE (O.S.)

His eyes dart to the closet.

Frighteningly, he opens the closet door.

Metal hangers slowly move to stillness.

While he studies them. -- A MONOPOLY BOX drops from a top shelf.

He jumps in fright.

On the floor of the closet lies phoney monopoly money with numerous colored pills and empty medicine bottles of Ritalin and Dexedrine.

EXT. STEVE'S DRIVEWAY - DAY

Joyce grips the steering wheel, pulling out of the drive.

JOYCE

Why do say that? -- Why do you make things up? Maybe Fairfield is a better place for us all. -- A place to call home.

JUSTIN

Really, some kids told me.

Joyce shakes her head while driving.

Justin spins the wheels on the skateboard.

JOYCE

What really happened to your face?

JUSTIN

I called some guy a sister rapin, incestuous hillbilly and then him and his jock, asshole buddies smashed my face with snow balls. I passed out. And a neighbor girl pulled me back home... on a sled.

Joyce throws him a questioning glance and shakes her head.

JOYCE

Santa's elf I imagine.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM - 2005 - DAY

FEET STOMPING ON WOODEN BLEACHERS.

A pep rally erupts with CHEERLEADERS, STUDENTS, and THE BAND playing the Patriot fight song.

The COACH, a young athletic 65, a Sylvester Stallone type stands below a cascade of State Championship Banners.

He raises his hands and drops it. -- Everything stops.

He grabs the microphone, like a demented politician.

COACH

Welcome! I want to introduce your two-thousand and thirteen, the pride of Fairfield -- your Patriot wrestling team -- THE PATRIOT SPIRIT!

WRESTLING TEAM (Josh, and the other Jocks) stand behind him with ties on.

BAND MUSIC AND CHEERS.

Justin puts on his headphones as PUNK MUSIC plays.

He backs up, exiting the gym.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL HALL - DAY

Justin meanders down a hall proudly displaying awards, photographs, banners, and trophies of Fairfield's illustrious athletes.

He slouches next to his Mother on waiting chairs outside a counselor's office. -- His headphones still on.

Suddenly, Bobbi exits the office wiping her eyes from tears. The COUNSELOR comforts her with a pat on the shoulder.

COUNSELOR

It'll be alright. Dr Johns will help you.

BOBBI

Thank you.

Suddenly, Bobbi meets Justin's wondering eyes. A stern face grips her as she quickly passes him.

She doesn't notice a paper drop from her notebook.

Justin picks it up while his Mother introduces herself to the Counselor.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL ART CLASS - DAY

STUDENTS are seated listening with disinterest.

The TEACHER (52) faces them with various forms of media - newspaper, magazines, slides, digital and video cameras on the desk. Basically, he is a crusty old shop teacher who is crafty enough to teach art.

TEACHER

Alright art-teests, get into your groups of four you were supposed to form yesterday.

Justin enters with his skateboard sticking out of his backpack to the laughter of students. He gives the teacher an admittance slip.

Bobbi glances over a book at him.

Jock 1 elbows Josh.

JOCK 1
It's that faggot punker.

TEACHER
Alright class, this is Justin --
Justin, this is art. Please find a
seat.

The only seat is next to Josh.

Justin gets close to the seat, but Josh kicks it away.

Justin picks it up and moves it further away in the back corner.

TEACHER
(claps) Groups!

The class erupts in excited chaos as students point and pair up.

In amongst the excitement is three visually despondent students -- virtual ghosts themselves:

EDDIE (14) is all smiles. He glances about trying desperately to be part of any group. However, his acne has masked this friendly, puppy eyed kid into a teenage monster.

JAMIE (14) has her elbows resting on the table as she holds her chin. She wears a blank stare while inhaling a deep breath. She is a meek, oily haired, four eyed girl who is always five years behind in her "Hello Kitty" fashion.

Lastly, there is Bobbi. She is quietly reading a novel.

The Teacher scans the room for misfits.

TEACHER
Anyone, anyone without a group?

Jamie reluctantly raises her hand.

CHEERLEADER
As usual. -- Meow! Hello Kitty.

Kids laugh.

JOSH
The Rock isn't in a group.

Bobbi puts her book away.

BOBBI
Shut up Josh.

Eddie raises his hand with a smile.

EDDIE
Me either.

TEACHER
All those without a group form your
own up here.

He motions to his desk.

The embarrassed three walk to the front of the class.

The teacher points back to Justin.

TEACHER
C'mon Justin. -- This is your group
now.

JOCK 1
(coughs) Losers.

Justin glares at the group and meets eye contact with Bobbi,
who glances away.

TEACHER
Yesterday, we spoke about the
different types of multi-media.
Over the course of two weeks you
will produce a multi-media piece of
art that reflects a theme.

He meanders around the room.

TEACHER
Using any one of the forms we
discussed, you must convey a theme
present in either our community of
Fairfield or in the school itself.

JOSH
Our choice?

TEACHER
Yes Josh, your choice.

Jock 1 grasps Josh's hand.

JOCK 1
Cool. -- Jacked-up.

TEACHER
I repeat. -- I repeat. This project must be made in decent moral standards. Josh, that means no downloading of pornography or nudity of any kind.

Students laugh.

TEACHER
You have the end of the period to come up with a theme. Begin.

Students begin talking at once. The misfit table is silent.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL ART CLASS - DAY

The classroom is still buzzing with students talking.

The misfit table is still quiet.

Justin surveys the table and reads the paper Bobbi dropped. It's a doctor's referral with two words scribbled...

"QUESTIONING SEXUALITY"

He glances up at Bobbi, but Eddie captures his attention in a consuming smile.

Justin shakes his head away in disgust.

TEACHER
Now, you all should have come up with an idea for your project. Let's go around the room.

A CHEERLEADER raises her hand.

TEACHER
Mindy?

She stands with an annoying, miss-everything grin.

MINDY
It will be a step by step, clap by clap, "how to cheer" video with the words and dance steps of Fairfield's fight songs.

Bobbi grabs her head in pain.

TEACHER

That will sure capture the spirit
of the school. -- Thank you.

She sits down proudly.

TEACHER

Next (pointing) back row.

A KISS-ASS STUDENT rises.

DEXTER

Ours is going to be an audio tape
recording titled, "Fabulous
Faculty"...

JOCK 1

(coughs) Brown-noser.

Students giggle.

DEXTER

...It will be the words and wisdom
of our teachers.

TEACHER

Hmmm...like a self improvement
course on how to become model
pupils and citizens. -- You might
want to include civic leaders,
Mayor, business leaders. Good. --
Can't wait.

He points to another group as the misfit group nervously
ponders embarrassment.

STUDENT 2 rises.

STUDENT 2

A bunch of pictures, collage titled
"Students at Work".

Jamie lowers her head to the table. Eddie's smile disappears.

Josh stands up.

JOSH

We're like gonna do a slide show to
that ancient rock song, "We are the
Champions."

JOCK 1
 (sings) We are the Champions my
 friend...

Josh backhands him as students laugh.

JOSH
 It'll be slides of the wrestling
 team, baseball team, you know?

TEACHER
 Very good.

JOSH
 Oh, we'll put in some chick
 sports...

He nods over to Bobbi.

JOSH
 ...just for Rock over there.

Bobbi rolls her eyes as Justin studies her.

The Teacher meanders to the misfit table.

TEACHER
 Thanks Josh. -- That leaves one
 more.

He stands before them.

TEACHER
 What is the project here?

Nobody rises. Eddie is the only one who meets the Teacher's
 gaze.

TEACHER
 Eddie?

JOSH (O.S.)
 A video on "how to be a dweeb."

CHEERLEADER (O.S.)
 MEOW!

Students laugh as Eddie smiles even larger.

TEACHER
 All this time and no theme?

Suddenly, Justin shivers from a cold chill.

TEACHER

Bobbi?

Bobbi glances away ashamed.

TEACHER

Justin?

Justin stares at him.

JUSTIN

GHOSTS!

Everybody stares at him for a moment. Laughter builds with the exception of the three Misfits.

TEACHER

Uh... (chuckles) Ghosts?

Justin nods.

TEACHER

Uh... Like the "boo" kind?

Justin can only glare at him. -- He won't repeat it.

Students still laugh.

TEACHER

Ahhh... Shhhh class...

Classroom becomes quiet as the Teacher gets behind Justin.

TEACHER

"The ghosts of Fairfield's past".
The famous and the honored students
who still haunts its halls. Justin
is using "ghosts" as a metaphor. --
Nice work.

He walks around the room taking the spotlight off our Misfits.

TEACHER

So many times we take that hall of
champions for granted. -- Unknown
pictures of Fairfield's fabled
past. Justin is going to put a
personality to those faces. -- What
form of media have you chosen?

The Misfits are silent as the Students wait in anticipation.

BOBBI
Film.

Everybody turns to Bobbi.

TEACHER
Huh?

BOBBI
Film, we are going to make a film.

SCHOOL BELL RINGS (O.S.)

Students rise.

TEACHER
A documentary on the ghosts of
Fairfield. -- Ambitious. Alright
kids, you have two weeks...

They run out the door.

TEACHER
...get going.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL HALL - DAY

Students exit from the Art class.

Justin slings on his backpack. Eddie tags behind him.

EDDIE
Hey, do you, like really
skateboard? -- Like your hair.

Justin treats him like a ghost.

JUSTIN
What you think?

Eddie still follows as Josh and Jock 1 come from behind.

EDDIE
Cool.

JOCK 1
Looks like Eddie has found a friend
as fucked up as him.

Josh rips the skateboard out.

JUSTIN
Hey! -- Asshole!

Justin tries to grab it back, but Josh keeps it at arms reach.

JOSH

Settle down punk. -- I just wanna take a look at the 90's. You don't want to get another beating do you?

JOCK 1

Moron, can't skateboard in winter.

Justin holds out his hand glaring at him.

EDDIE

Josh c'mon?

JOCK 1

Better watch out, your brother might run home and tell your mommy.

Justin throws a quizzical glance at Eddie.

Josh hands out the board as Justin grabs the wheels.

They "tug of war" with it and suddenly, Josh lets go.

Justin falls back letting loose of the skateboard.

The skateboard rolls with velocity down the hall as the Coach walks toward them.

CRASH! The board shatters a glass case of awards and photos.

JOCK 1

Shit! -- Coach!

Jock 1 slaps Josh and they both spin off.

Eddie slips away as Justin scampers to the case.

The Coach is already bending down to take out the skateboard which lies on broken glass and a picture of a wrestler.

COACH

It's your board?

He reaches for the board and a glass shard penetrates his hand.

COACH

SHIT!

He pulls out his bloody hand.

COACH
Look what you did now.

JUSTIN
You did that. You stuck your
hand...

The Coach stands intimidatingly close applying pressure to the wound.

COACH
It's your board. They are not
allowed on school premises just
because of this shi...

He points his bloody finger at the case.

COACH
...Take out your board.

Justin glares at him as Bobbi is seen from behind.

Slowly, Justin gets on his knees breaking some glass underneath.

COACH
After you take it out, I want you
to find the custodian and clean
this up.

Justin cautiously lifts the board revealing a wrestling photograph of a handsome teenager raising his arms in jubilation. The Coach's blood is smeared across his chest.

Justin stares at the photograph.

A name reads "STEVE WALTZ, 85."

COACH
Better not break anything else.

The Coach notices it too. -- His face turns white.

Justin rises with his board. Bobbi is adjacent from them.

The Coach shakes himself noticing Bobbi.

COACH
Bobbi! How are you?

She doesn't say a word and walks down the hall.

The Coach watches her back with disappointment.

COACH
Remind your mother, I'll be by to
pick her up around six.

He notices Justin catching his invulnerability.

COACH
You?! Why are you still here? Clean
this up.

EXT. BOBBI'S FRONT YARD - DAY

Directly across the street from Justin, Rian rolls the head
of a snowman she is making.

RIAN
HELP ME!

Bobbi comes out from behind the two larger balls of the body.
She holds her recorder.

BOBBI
This is childish.

RIAN
Duh, I'm only nine stupid. -- This
will be the last time this winter I
can make one.

A melting icicle drops from the roof.

They heave and roll the small ball up on the body.

RIAN
When the snow has all melted --
he'll live on.

BOBBI
He?

Rian packs snow in the crevice of the head and body.

RIAN
He's my snow ghost.

STEVE WALTZ'S HOUSE.

Justin comes out with his skateboard and tries miserably to
ride it on the ice of the carport.

BOBBI'S HOUSE.

Bobbi and Rian watch him.

RIAN
Your boyfriend is out.

BOBBI
He's not my boyfriend, stupid.

BOBBI'S MOTHER (O.S.)
HE TOLD ME SIX THIRTY! -- YOU SURE
HE SAID SIX?

Bobbi faces the screen door.

BOBBI
YES! This is like the third time.
Six thirty is Larry on Saturday.

A figure is seen at the door.

BOBBI'S MOTHER
Listen! -- Don't get sassy on me.
You sure? Thought Larry was six on
Thursday.

BOBBI
The Coach. SIX O'CLOCK.

BOBBI'S MOTHER
Alright all ready.

JUSTIN slides all over the street.

A SUBURBAN SUV turns down their street.

BOBBI films Justin performing tricks.

RIAN
Think this could be our new daddy?

BOBBI
Pleeze, the Coach is old. -- He's
like Great Grandpa's age. He is
mom's toy, like this snowman
(quietly) if it had a penis.
Anyways, he'd be our stepfather. --
We still have a dad remember?

RIAN
But he moved to Florida.

BOBBI
He's still our dad.

JUSTIN loses control of his board and it slides in the street. He chases.

TIRES SCREECH.

The SUV locks its brakes, sliding.

Justin stands an inch from its bumper.

Something unseen yanks on his jacket, ripping him from being hit.

CRACK! POP!

The skateboard snaps under the tire. -- The SUV slides to a halt.

JUSTIN
WHAT THE FUCK?!

He slaps the back of the SUV.

JUSTIN
Watch where you drive asshole!

SUV door opens.

Bobbi'S Mother runs out the screen door. Brian runs out of his.

Justin picks up the pieces of his board.

JUSTIN
Fucker broke my board.

BOOTS are beside him as he picks it up.

COACH
What did you call me?

Justin rises confronting the Coach. Brian grabs Justin's shoulders spinning him around.

BRIAN
(to Justin) Are you alright?

JUSTIN
He broke my board.

Brian examines him allover.

COACH
You're lucky that's all I broke boy.

JUSTIN

I'm no boy.

Bobbi, Rian, and her Mother stand on the curb.

BRIAN

Justin please.

Brian holds out his hand to the Coach.

BRIAN

No hard feelings Coach.

JUSTIN

Dad? He mangled my board. Why?...

Brian turns to Justin.

BRIAN

Justin, this is our landlord,
Mister Waltz. -- We rent the house
from him. Please get in the house.

Justin glares at him as Bobbi's Mother cuddles up to the Coach.

BOBBI'S MOTHER

Too much excitement.

The Coach kisses her cheek as Justin stomps off.

Bobbi's Mother holds out her hand to Brian.

BOBBI'S MOTHER

We haven't been formally
introduced...

Bobbi spins Rian around with her, walking back to the house.

BOBBI

He's married Mother. (to Rian) Like
that will stop her.

EXT. STEVE'S BACKYARD - DAY

Justin throws the remains of the skateboard into the woods.
He breaks off a branch and starts beating the brush.

JUSTIN

I hate this place. Hate the school.
Hate my life. Hate the Coach...

He stops beating the bush noticing footprints leading from the woods to the house.

JUSTIN
...hate Mister Waltz?

He looks up to his bedroom window. STEVE WALTZ glares down at him in his black ski mask.

Justin's mouth drops.

JUSTIN
Oh hell no.

INT. STEVE'S DININGROOM - NIGHT

Justin picks at his food as Brian and Joyce rise from the table.

JOYCE
How was school today?

Justin lifts his head to the ceiling.

JUSTIN
It's school. -- Did you hear that?!

JOYCE
Justin, there is nothing there.

She leans into Justin.

JOYCE
Nothing, remember? Brian mentioned you met the Coach.

JUSTIN
Yeah, he ran over my board.

Brian throws him a stern look as Joyce cleans the table.

JOYCE
I heard his wrestling team is the best in state since...forever. You should join?

JUSTIN
That's gay.

She rolls her eyes as she carries plates away. Brian follows shaking his head, leaving Justin alone at the table.

TAP, TAP, TAP on the window.

Justin looks up at the ceiling.

KNOCK on window.

Justin spins his head to the window.

MICHAEL MYERS glares in from outside.

Justin jumps in fright. -- Joyce enters at the same time.

She SCREAMS in horror.

INT. STEVE'S LIVINGROOM - NIGHT

Bobbi holds the Michael Myers mask and her camera as she sits with Justin on the couch. Not a word is spoken.

Brian enters rattling a bottle of pills.

BRIAN

Your Mother has calmed some. --
It's a school night, so your new
friend can only stay until nine.

JUSTIN

Not my friend.

He exits leaving them in awkward silence.

BOBBI

I didn't come here to be your
friend...

She raises the camera.

BOBBI

...I wanted to show you something --
check this out.

Justin views the playback of the accident earlier in the day.

JUSTIN

You filmed me?

BOBBI

I film everybody. -- Just watch.

JUSTIN'S JACKET IS PULLED FROM BEHIND AN INCH BEFORE THE SUV.

JUSTIN

Yeah, so what?

BOBBI
You were pulled from behind. --
Steve saved your ass.

He glances up at the ceiling.

JUSTIN
I didn't see shit. There's no such
thing.

BOBBI
You've seen him.

She looks up at the ceiling.

BOBBI
Nah uh, he's in your room?

JUSTIN
No, he's not.

BOBBI
That's why you brought up ghosts
for the class assignment. It was no
metaphor. -- You ain't that smart
Chuck.

JUSTIN
He's not up there.

BOBBI
There is a reason why he still
lives here. -- Why he runs the
woods...haunts old highway nine.

She grabs the camera from him and looks in the view finder.

BOBBI
Fuck the assignment. -- Let's make
our own.

JUSTIN
Our?

BOBBI
You, me...the group. Our own
assignment of the spirit of
Fairfield.

JUSTIN
Steve?

BOBBI
That's right Chuck. -- The real
ghost of Fairfield.

INT. STEVE'S HALL - NIGHT

Justin listens at his bedroom door. He quietly knocks on the door.

JUSTIN
Yo! -- I'm coming in.

Slowly, he opens the door with eyes scanning the room. He quietly steps across the floor peeking in the closet and under the desk.

JUSTIN
If you are here...please disappear.
Hopefully you are away at ghost
practice. -- Hell week.

He glances out the window into the darkness.

He closes the curtains and lays in bed with his eyes wide open.

Suddenly, the BACKYARD LIGHT illuminates through the curtains.

JUSTIN
Only a bunny, a raccoon?

Justin covers his head with the covers.

BEDROOM DOOR CREAKS OPEN (O.S.)

He slowly pulls down the covers from his face.

STEVE WALTZ'S BLOODY EYES are an inch from his face.

Justin shudders as the ghost jerks away into the corner by the closet.

They stare at each other for a frightening moment.

Steve goes into the closet and jumps, bursting through the closet ceiling. Debris cascades down.

Small pieces of ceiling drop to the floor as Justin peers up into the hole.

JUSTIN

Sorry Steve, not tonight man. --
I'm not going up there. Catch me
tomorrow dude...maybe, maybe not.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY - DAY

Jamie, Eddie, and Bobbi gather at a back table. The camera is
between them. Justin sits away from them.

EDDIE

A film? This is Fairfield not
Hollywood. Let's do a collagey --
photo thingie. Art is my only "C"
class guys.

BOBBI

C'mon we can make one of those
investigative documentaries.

JAMIE

Why ghosts?

Bobbie thumbs over to Justin.

BOBBI

The creep lives in Steve's house.

Both of their mouths drop.

JAMIE

Really?! That Steve?

They all move closer to him.

EDDIE

Have you seen him? -- I heard he
was shot.

JAMIE

No, the Benton wrestling team beat
him to death.

BOBBI

Mom said he was hit by a drunk
driver on highway nine. -- That's
why they closed it.

JUSTIN

Funny, he told me last night that
werewolves ripped him up.

Bobbi cocks her head as Jamie and Eddie's mouths drop.

JAMIE

Naw?

BOBBI

We're going to find out how with
our assignment.

Justin leans into Jamie.

JUSTIN

MEOW!

Jamie falls back mercilessly in her chair.

BOBBI

Don't be one of them.

Justin glares at her.

JUSTIN

What does that mean? -- I'm sure
not one of you losers.

Eddie and Jamie buckle down like they have just been punched.

BOBBI

You're a prick. Look around you. --
We are all you got in this school.

JUSTIN

I don't need friends. -- I have
tons of friends in California.

Bobbi leans into him.

BOBBI

This is Fairfield. The only friend
you have is a dead guy. -- A ghost.
-- Steve.

JAMIE

He's not even your friend.

JUSTIN

Shut up Miss Kitty.

TIME DISSOLVE
TO:

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY - DAY

The LIBRARIAN (40's) holds the camera in front of the four despondent Misfits at a table. She's a conservative motherly woman with many dumpling dinners added on her waist.

Jamie raises her hand.

LIBRARIAN

Yes.

JAMIE

What if the person is dead?

LIBRARIAN

You interview the ghost...

They all glare at Justin.

LIBRARIAN

...kidding, you interview the people who knew the person, if they are still alive that is.

EDDIE

Like we have to talk to pee-ple?
Adults?

She centers the camera on Justin.

LIBRARIAN

As an example...please state your name.

Justin tenses up in the spotlight.

JUSTIN

Justin.

LIBRARIAN

I noticed your green punk spiked hair...you aren't from these parts?

JUSTIN

Southern California.

LIBRARIAN

What did you do there for fun?

JUSTIN

Skateboard.

LIBRARIAN

Are you good at it?

He shrugs.

BOBBI
He thinks he is.

LIBRARIAN
Why did you move here?

JUSTIN
My father's job.

LIBRARIAN
Hmmm...do you like your new house?

He shrugs.

EDDIE
It's Steve Waltz's house.

The Librarian shivers, peering past the camera at him.

LIBRARIAN
How long have you lived there?

JUSTIN
A week or so.

JAMIE
He shares a room with him. -- We're
doing a documentary on his murder.

The other Kids glare daggers at Jamie.

The Librarian's face turns pale as she lays down the camera.

LIBRARIAN
So, that's how you do it. --
Writing them down first might help.

She cautiously backs away.

LIBRARIAN
Why don't you take this outside and
practice it.

EXT. FOOTBALL BLEACHERS - DAY

Sun melts the final patches of snow on the football field.

CHEERLEADERS practice their cheers while filming their video.

The WRESTLING TEAM runs around the track with the Coach
leading.

Jamie, Eddie, Bobbi, and Justin sit on the vacant bleachers.
Eddie video tapes the cheerleaders.

BOBBI
Hey perv, we are supposed to
practice interviews.

Justin rips the camera from his hands and focuses it on
Bobbi.

JUSTIN
What is your name?

Bobbi holds out her hand.

BOBBI
Give it here.

JUSTIN
Why do they call you the "rock."

BOBBI
Only the ass wipes.

EDDIE
(to Justin) Don't be mean.

Justin flips the camera on him.

JUSTIN
Ooooo...there's a voice behind the
Halloween mask.

Eddie still smiles but his fists clench up.

Jamie covers her ears and puts her head in her knees.

JUSTIN
C'mon zitbrain? -- Why do you
always have that shitty ass, happy
smile?

BOBBI
Justin, this is wrong. -- Stop it.

Justin puts the camera in his face.

JUSTIN
Tell me! -- Why is everything so
fuck-king happy?

Eddie tears up but keeps smiling.

JAMIE
 (quietly)
 It isn't happy.

Justin focuses on her.

JUSTIN
 What is that? -- Did I hear a purr?

BOBBI
 They call me "The Rock" because I'm
 fat. -- Not like the pretty girls.

Justin can't bring himself to look at them.

CHEERLEADERS (O.S.)
 FREAKS!

They all look out to the field.

The CHEERLEADERS are lined up like a chorus line before them.

CHEERLEADER
 We made this just for you. - Ready
 team?

Justin presses record on the camera and faces it to them.

Cheerleaders perform a cheer. They perform numerous high
 kicks while clapping in unison.

CHEERLEADERS
 "We are strange, we are geeks! - We
 are the Fairfield High Freaks! So
 clap your hands, stomp your
 feet..."

They lower their heads and walk in a line like scared
 puppies.

CHEERLEADERS
 "...to the beat of the freak.
 (quiet) We are strange, we are
 geeks, but we'll always be..."

They fall down dead to the ground.

CHEERLEADERS
 "...Fairfield High Freaks."

The Wrestling Team cheers and claps for them.

Jamie, Bobbie, and Eddie sit in stunned silence.

Justin scrapes the back of his throat in a nasty, raspy cough. His cheeks broaden and he pierces his lips in anger.

Justin propels himself in the air and spits the grossest lugey chunk ever.

The phlegm soars like a meteor and plops right in a Cheerleader's hair.

CHEERLEADER 1

Eww...

The Cheerleader 2 rises and the lugey dangles from her hair to the disgust of her co-horts.

CHEERLEADER 2

Disgusting. -- Help me!

Bobbi hocks up her own lugey and let's it fly.

Eddie rises to his feet and thrusts out an even larger chunk.

The Cheerleaders scream as more mucus bombs strike.

Jamie timidly rises and spits a delicate string of pearls.

The Cheerleaders cover their heads from the rain of phlegm.

The Athletes stare at them in disbelief. The Coach is stunned to say the least.

EXT. COUNTRY BACK ROAD - DAY

Bobbi steadies herself on the skateboard by holding one hand on Justin's shoulder.

Eddie and Jamie joyously walk beside them.

BOBBI

This is harder than snowboarding.

Jamie runs in front of them walking backwards.

JAMIE

That was the best! -- Say that wasn't the best.

Justin nods smiling.

EDDIE

You were the best.

Jamie spins with her arms out.

JAMIE
FUCK... I never knew spitting on
Cheerleaders could feel so good.

Jamie points at the board.

JAMIE
I wanna skateboard.

She rips off her "Hello Kitty" jacket.

JAMIE
No more kitties.

She stomps on it.

Eddie takes off his sweatshirt and gives it to her.

BOBBI
Calm down Jamie...

EDDIE
They'll still hate us tomorrow.

BOBBI
We need to get interviews. I have
to have dinner at the Coach's house
tonight.

EDDIE
Eww.

BOBBI
Tell me. -- My mom is doin him.

EDDIE AND JAMIE
Eww! He's old.

BOBBI
Anyway, I'll work on him since he's
Steve's dad.

She points to Eddie and Jamie.

BOBBI
You guys go to the library and find
out anything on him, his murder,
death, whatever.

She jumps off the board pulling the camera out of her
backpack.

BOBBI

You...

Shoves the camera into Justin's chest.

BOBBI

...film the ghost.

Justin cradles the camera staring at her.

EDDIE

Cool.

Eddie puts his arm around Jamie. -- A petite smile shines on her face.

EDDIE

Let's get back to the library.

They spin around together as Bobbi backs up away from Justin.

BOBBI

Usually he just scares most people.
He's your friend. -- He saved your
life.

JUSTIN

He's a jock. -- He hates me.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY BASEMENT - DAY

Jamie and Eddie sit before an ancient microfiche viewer in the dark, dusty basement. The Librarian attaches the reel.

LIBRARIAN

Back then, local papers only used
this until computers. Not many kids
want information over twenty years
old...

A sudden chill runs shivers up her spine. She glances around the basement. She shrugs, spinning the reel as old news is projected on the screen.

LIBRARIAN

You spin this until you find the
date you want.

JAMIE

Ummm...

LIBRARIAN

In your case, check around late
February 1985.

She disappears in the shadows.

INT. STEVE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Justin films the hole in the closet ceiling.

RAFTERS CREAK (O.S.)

He quickly backs away.

EXT. BOBBI'S HOUSE - FRONT YARD - DAY

The Snow Ghost glistens from the melting of the evening sun.

MUSTANG

Bobbi's mother is on the cellular with Bobbi and Rian in the
passenger seats.

BOBBI'S MOTHER

(giggling) You are so funny. Sure,
I'd love to go to the game on
Sunday.

RIAN

Why do we have to go? -- It's her
boyfriend.

BOBBI

One of many.

Bobbi's mother smacks Rian while holding the mouth piece.

BOBBI'S MOTHER

Shhh...

She goes back to the cellular.

BOBBI'S MOTHER

I better go. -- We are almost to
the movies. Girls night out.

Bobbi rolls her eyes as her mother notices the ghost and
covers the mouth piece.

BOBBI'S MOTHER

Is that a ghost? How ghastly. Take
that down when we get home.

Car pulls out of the driveway.

INT. LIBRARY BASEMENT - DAY

By only the illumination of the screen, Jamie points to the slowly turning articles.

JAMIE

There!

Eddie stops spinning the microfiche knob.

They lean closer to a newspaper photograph of a young twenty-year old Truck Driver handcuffed by a truck. The title reads, "DRUNK DRIVER TAKES LOCAL SPORTS HERO'S LIFE". A school picture of Steve Waltz is in the corner.

EDDIE

February twentieth...

INT. STEVE'S ATTIC - DAY

Justin pops his head up through the hole of the closet. The camera lights up the musty dulled pink of insulation and wooden rafters.

EDDIE (V.O.)

(reading)

At approximately eleven P.M....

Justin lifts his body through the hole.

EDDIE (V.O.)

(reading)

...a semi truck struck and killed the star wrestler on the Fairfield High School Spirit team, Steve Waltz.

Justin crawls along a beam with the shaking camera lighting the way.

EDDIE (V.O.)

(reading)

The truck driver, Jimmy O'Fallon, was over the legal limit for alcohol and charged with manslaughter.

Justin slips from the beam into the pink insulation.

CEILING CRACKS (O.S.)

He hustles back to the beam, gasping for air. He coughs and stops abruptly.

RAFTERS CREAK ahead in the darkness.

JAMIE (V.O.)

(reading)

Sheriff Sumner was the first on the scene followed by Jack Waltz, the father of the victim and the brilliant assistant head coach of four state championship Spirit teams.

Justin coughs, making his way into the darkness.

JAMIE (V.O.)

(reading)

The sheriff noted, "Not only was he over the legal alcohol limit -- his truck was oversized for the weight allowed for travel on highway nine." This is the third time there has been an accident on highway nine in the past month.

Justin rams into a wall.

He films back around into the empty darkness.

JAMIE (V.O.)

(reading)

The father will plead with the local community to seek closure of this deadly stretch of road.

Justin leans against the wall while lowering the camera.

Something like a rat scurries behind him up the wall.

His eyes widen. -- CRACK! He falls back as the wall breaks away into more darkness.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY - NIGHT

Jamie and Eddie finish reading the article on the microfiche.

Suddenly, from the shadows of darkness, a newspaper slides at their feet.

In horror, they glance at the paper and back into the darkness surrounding them.

JAMIE
Who's there?

EDDIE
I think he wants us to pick it up.

JAMIE
Steve?

Eddie picks it up and unfolds it.

Red ink circles a small article. Eddie reads it.

EDDIE
(reading)
"Jimmy O'Fallon, the murderer of a local Fairfield teenager decades ago, is caught robbing a liquor store in Banning. Just last year, he was freed from prison."

INT. STEVE'S ATTIC - NIGHT

Justin lays back in the debris staring up at the ceiling. A darken blurry face looks back at him from the ceiling.

Slowly, he grasps the camera and it lights a young Bruce Springsteen. (BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN POSTER "DARKNESS ON THE EDGE OF TOWN" COVER).

Justin rises up from the cracked dry wall.

He films into the darken space.

It is a small room, like a teenage prisoner's cell. It contains a sleeping bag, a lamp, pictures, books -- seventies and eighties bric-a-brac.

He sits on the bag and flips the light switch on the lamp.

INT. COACH'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

At the table, Bobbi engulfs mashed potatoes while Rian, the Coach and her mother watch.

BOBBI'S MOTHER
Bobbi, don't be such a glutton.

Bobbi glances up with her cheeks filled like a squirrel.

BOBBI
Huh?

RIAN
She loves potatoes.

Bobbi gulps it down.

COACH
You know I could put her on a
regimented diet and exercise
program.

Bobbi is embarrassed picking at her food. She puts a piece of
ham in her mouth.

COACH
Get you ready for softball tryouts.

BOBBI'S MOTHER
That's a wonderful offer. -- What
do you say hon?

The Coach reaches over and pinches her tummy.

Bobbi angrily jerks away.

COACH
Get rid of that baby fat.

RIAN
She's not fat.

BOBBI'S MOTHER
Rian, Charles didn't say that.

Rian text messages on her cellular phone.

RIAN
He said "baby fat." -- Fat is fat.

Bobbi spits out the ham to her plate.

BOBBI
Fine. If the world wants me skinny.
-- I'll starve myself, lose weight.
I'll do whatever the world wants me
to do. Can you tell me where the
bathroom is? -- I need to spew
potatoes.

She rises as her Mother yanks the cellular out of Rian's
hands.

COACH

You've been hanging around that
Justin punk. His attitude is
rubbing off on you.

He points down the hall. -- She is already there.

COACH

I'm not going to tell your mother
what I saw you do today.

HALL

Bobbi walks down the hall and notices an immaculate study.

STUDY

Bobbi enters to find a shrine to Steve Waltz with trophies,
ribbons, and photos in glass cases.

His letterman jacket hangs on a hook beside it.

She glances over her shoulder making sure nobody is around.

INT. STEVE'S ATTIC - NIGHT

Justin finds a yearbook, a cigar case, old library books,
music cassettes, and a school photograph of a pretty 80's
teenage girl.

He sits on the mattress and opens the yearbook.

JOYCE (O.S.)

JUSTIN? Dinner is ready.

He grabs up what he can. -- He is about to pull down a
picture of the girl from the wall, but stops.

JUSTIN

I better leave that for you. Cool
digs.

He scampers on the wood beam.

INT. COACH'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Bobbi enters with a little more bulk around her midsection
while Rian, Coach, and her mother talk.

COACH

Just have her stay away from that
kid.

(MORE)

COACH (cont'd)
-- Never should have let them move
in. If I knew they had a bad kid
like that...

BOBBI'S MOTHER
(to Bobbi) Maybe you shouldn't...

Bobbi sits down uncomfortably.

Rian notices part of a jacket sticking out behind her back.

BOBBI
We are working on an art project
together. -- Four of us. That's it
Mother.

Rian tosses a quizzical glance at her.

Bobbi slowly shakes her head at her.

BOBBI
We are making a documentary on
famous Fairfield High athletes.

The Coach perks up.

COACH
Athletes?

BOBBI
Like those we see in those old
photos and stuff in the Hall of
Champions.

COACH
I might be able to help you with
that... if you like?

He nods smiling to her Mother.

COACH
If your Mother likes me to?

BOBBI'S MOTHER
There you go...something in common.

BOBBI
I need to interview people who,
like, knew them.

Bobbi's Mother throws a wicked smile at him.

BOBBI'S MOTHER
I'm sure Charles could help you out
with it.

INT. STEVE'S DININGROOM - NIGHT

Justin comes down to the table to find a bottle of pills on
his plate.

He stares at them.

Joyce and Brian are already eating.

JUSTIN
What is that?

Joyce wipes her mouth.

JOYCE
I found a doctor here in Fairfield
to fill your prescriptions.

JUSTIN
I thought you said I was off of
them?

JOYCE
Your Dad...

Brian glances down to his plate.

JOYCE
...and I noticed you were a little
edgy, that's all.

He glares at them, nervously bobbing his head to unheard
music.

JUSTIN
Fuck that...

He spins away.

JUSTIN
...don't need that shit.

Joyce rises.

JOYCE
Justin!

Brian grabs her hand.

BRIAN
Give him time.

JOYCE
Give him time? What Brian? Give him
time to kill himself?...

Brian studies her angry face.

INT. STEVE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Justin slams the door. He takes out Steve's stuff from under the bed and rummages through it. He opens the cigar case and reels from the stench.

JOINTS AND BAGS OF MARIJUANA.

JUSTIN
Yeow...seems mister jock-head was a
user...abuser.

CLANK! (rocks thrown at window)

Justin jumps up, spilling some weed.

JUSTIN
FUCK! -- Kidding man.

Another rock strikes the window.

Justin slowly goes to the window.

He peeks out.

Perturbed, Bobbi waits for him below.

Relieved, he opens the window and points.

JUSTIN
Use the ladder. -- Be quiet.

A few minutes later...

Bobbi comes through the window with a garbage bag.

JUSTIN
Can't you just be normal and ring a
doorbell.

BOBBI
Where's the mystery in that. -- Got
you a gift Chuck...

She hesitates noticing the pot.

BOBBI
...you smoke?

He puts his finger to his mouth.

JUSTIN
Shhh...it's not mine.

She cocks her head questioning him.

JUSTIN
It's Steve's.

Justin scatters everything on the bed.

JUSTIN
Really. Look. I found this up in
the attic. He had a secret hiding
place up there.

Bobbi bends over it.

BOBBI
No shit. Did you film him?

Justin shakes his head.

JUSTIN
Nope. -- He must have been haunting
somewhere else. I fell into it on
my own.

Bobbi pulls out Steve's letterman jacket from the bag.

BOBBI
Check this out...cha-ching --
Steve's jacket.

JUSTIN
Wow!

He picks it up.

JUSTIN
How you get it?

BOBBI
Took some time. -- I stole it from
the coach's house. Put it on.

He looks sheepishly at her and puts it on. It dangles on his
small frame.

BOBBI
(giggles) Looks good on you. --
Look in the mirror.

He stands before a mirror and tucks his hand in the pockets.

His face twists as he pulls out a clear ziplock bag containing matted black fabric.

JUSTIN
What the hell did you put in here?

BOBBI
Nothin...

She studies it.

BOBBI
...I never looked.

In the mirror, blind to them, stands the mangled and bloody face of Steve.

BOBBI
...eww, it's his bloody ski mask.

They study it.

JUSTIN
It must be.

Suddenly chilled, Bobbi swings to the window ready to split.

BOBBI
I have to get back to help my Mom
help Rian with her homework.

JUSTIN
(holding the mask) Don't leave me
with this.

BOBBI
Give it back to your boyfriend.

EXT. CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

Early morning, Jamie and Eddie exit the store with slurpees.

They meet Bobbi outside who is reading the articles about Steve.

BOBBI
 Amazing, my Mom told me the truth. -
 - He was killed out on highway
 nine.

EDDIE
 Where's Justin?

BOBBI
 He said he forgot something.

They sit on a low wall.

BOBBI
 Here's the scoop, I'm interviewing
 Coach this morning...

She points to Eddie.

BOBBI
 ...you interview your dad. -- He
 was one of Steve's best friends.

Eddie slurps some up.

EDDIE
 Can't I, like, interview someone
 else?

JAMIE
 He's your dad?

EDDIE
 (sulking)
 I'a know.

Bobbi points to Jamie.

BOBBI
 You? -- You might need two for this
 one...one holding the camera, the
 other asking the questions.

JAMIE
 Who?

BOBBI
 The Sheriff.

JAMIE AND EDDIE
 The Sheriff?!

BOBBI
 First person on the scene.

Justin, wearing the letterman jacket, skateboards up with a garbage bag.

EDDIE

Who you beat up to get that?

BOBBI

It's Steve's. -- Don't ask.

JAMIE

Ummm, I don't get it. -- Why are we doing this when we know how he died already?

BOBBI

Something's not right. I feel it.

JAMIE

Somebody's lying? Why would they?

EDDIE

Steve gave us that paper about the truck driver for a reason.

BOBBI

Adults always lie.

JUSTIN

They are always hiding shit.

JAMIE

But...

JUSTIN

We are going to help him get to heaven.

All three stare at him.

JUSTIN

Shut up!

He dumps three skateboards out of the trash bag to the ground.

The other Kids gape at the boards and question back to Justin.

JUSTIN

Shut the fuck up! -- They're old. Used.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH HALL - DAY

Bobbi films the Hall of Champions along the past teenage heros.

She stops on photographs of Steve.

BOBBI

The legend of Steve Waltz. -- Not only the most celebrated athlete, but the most celebrated ghost of Fairfield High. Why does he still haunt the halls?

She studies a photograph of Steve with his arm around another WRESTLER (JAMES). It's more a loving embrace than celebrating a win.

COACH (O.S.)

Hello, young lady.

Bobbi rises up frightened and startled by the Coach.

COACH

I'm sorry. -- I didn't mean to scare you. Where's your beautiful Mother?

BOBBI

No prob. Hmmm...she had to do some shopping.

COACH

I really like that woman.

He notices she was filming his Son's awards.

BOBBI

He had a lot of them.

He nods.

COACH

Shall we go in the gym.

INT. STEVE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Justin googles on his computer while Eddie picks at his face in the mirror.

EDDIE

He won't pop out somewhere in here?

JUSTIN

Like out of your zits...“O” Fall-
len. Was there a space in his name?

Eddie cringes while picking a major whitehead.

EDDIE

It was one of those...

He slashes the air.

EDDIE

...apostrophe things.

Justin notices him.

JUSTIN

You know you...

EDDIE

I know, I know...don't pick
em...but fuck I'd rather have
craters than snow capped mountains.

He picks one which spurts on the mirror.

EDDIE

I'd rather my face look like the
moon than a globe version of
Antarctica.

Eddie smears it off with his shirt sleeve.

JUSTIN

I got some medication my Mom got
me. -- I got pills for
everything... I'm a legalized drug
user from way back. -- Toddler
days.

EDDIE

You have zits too?

JUSTIN

Of course. I'll give you some
medication to help you out.

INT. GOODWILL STORE - DAY

JAMIE'S MOTHER (39) picks out some "Strawberry Shortcake"
clothes from a rack. She is a conservative, spend thrift in
her self cut, chopped bangs.

Jamie holds up a business suit outfit with a puffy pink blouse.

Jamie's Mother curls up her nose and points at the yellow tag on the clothes. She shows her the blue tag.

Jamie's mother holds up Strawberry Shortcake clothes with a blue tag of course.

Jamie shakes her head violently.

Jamie replaces the yellow tags with blue ones on her ensemble.

She lays the clothes in her mother's pile. Her Mother's mouth drops to her chest.

EXT. BUS STOP BENCH - DAY

Justin and Eddie wait with their skateboards.

EDDIE

Hopefully, you talked to the right Jimmy O'Fallon.

JUSTIN

Article said he lived in Banning, there was only one O'Fallon in the computer. -- How far is it?

EDDIE

Dunno, only been there for my Brother's wrestling matches.

INT. FAIRFIELD GYMNASIUM - DAY

WRESTLERS practice matches on mats. The Coach is in the bleachers with a bull horn facing practice. Bobbi is behind him with the camera, video taping.

COACH

(in bullhorn) KEEP MOVING JACKSON!
I WANT YOU TO SQUIRM LIKE A GOD
DAMN SNAKE! DON'T LET HIM PIN YOU!
(to Bobbi) Go ahead, ask away.

Bobbi focuses up close on the Wrestlers sparring.

BOBBI (O.S.)

Huh, how many state titles have you won?

COACH (O.S.)
 See those banners from the rafters.
 - Nine. Could have been ten.

She points the camera at the rafters.

BOBBI (O.S.)
 Ten?

COACH (O.S.)
 Yep, we should have won in nineteen
 eighty-four. (in bullhorn) JIMMY,
 TWIST OUT OF IT. USE YOUR LOWER
 TORSO FOR LEVERAGE! (away from
 horn) That kid's heart isn't in it.
 - He's soft.

Bobbi gets a profile shot of the Coach's face.

BOBBI
 That was about when Steve died?

INT. JAMIE'S BEDROOM - DAY

The room is decorated in Strawberry Shortcake and Hello Kitty
 bed spreads and posters.

In front of a full length mirror, Jamie is dressed in her new-
 used business outfit. The blouse has a big bow in the front.

She holds a brush in her hand like a microphone.

JAMIE
 Where were you on the night Steve
 Waltz was hit by a truck?

She cocks her head waiting for an answer and nods.

JAMIE
 I see, can you tell me about that
 night? Who was there?

She nods.

JAMIE
 Is that so?...Why do you think
 Steve is haunting Fairfield now?

She cocks her head to the other side.

JAMIE
 Hmmmm... What are you trying to
 cover up sheriff?

She rolls her eyes at his pretend response.

JAMIE

I believe you do understand my questioning.

INT. FAIRFIELD GYMNASIUM - DAY

The Coach is still facing the practice with Bobbi taping him.

COACH

Yep, the year when our greatest President, Ronald Reagan won in a landslide. I remember I worked on Steve everyday. Every morning and every night, I had him running those woods behind our house. You see Edwardsville was the team to beat in the championship that year. They had a kid... a kid by the name of Johnson. Amazing wrestler. Not as good as Steve though, but good.

Bobbi faces the camera towards the wrestlers.

BOBBI (O.S.)

Did Steve beat him?

COACH (O.S.)

Johnson was in a lower weight class than Steve. To win the championship I had to have Steve drop in weight to face him. You know Eddie Sutton and Josh Sutton? (pointing) Josh is the one almost getting pinned now.

BOBBI (O.S.)

Yeah, Eddie is a friend of mine.

COACH (O.S.)

(in bull horn) C'MON PANSIES! WHY DON'T YOU CONSUMMATE YOUR RELATIONSHIP RIGHT ON THE MAT? He's lucky, I can't beat his ass.

He furiously stands up.

COACH

(in bull horn) STOP HUMPING AND WRESTLE. BOTH DROP AND GIVE ME FIFTY!

Bobbi watches as the Wrestlers perform push-ups on cue.

The Coach sits back down.

COACH

(to Bobbi) Dumb! Just like his dad. His dad was in Johnson's class. He was a strong wrestler, but an IQ of a goat. With strength, you need smarts, discipline, and heart to be a winning wrestler. Remember that. That goes for everything in life. Bob Sutton only had strength. I was going to have Steve go down a weight class and Bob move up.

BOBBI

Did it work?

EXT. BANNING BUS STOP - DAY

Justin and Eddie get off the bus leaving them in exhaust fumes.

JUSTIN

Now where?

Eddie pulls out a map.

EDDIE

I goggled his address.

Justin takes off down the street on his skateboard. Eddie follows like an amateur.

INT. FAIRFIELD GYMNASIUM - DAY

The Coach shakes his head as Bobbi tapes his response.

COACH

He let me down.

BOBBI (O.S.)

Eddie's dad?

Coach smirks.

COACH

No, he ate like a two-ton hog. He made the weight. Steve, Steve let me down. He didn't lose enough to get into that weight class. We had to forfeit that match.

(MORE)

COACH (cont'd)
 -- They won on a technicality. I
 lost everything.

BOBBI (O.S.)
 But, he never lost a match.

COACH
 (nods) His heart was somewhere
 else. (in bullhorn) ALRIGHT JOSH
 SETUP WITH BILL. PUT SOME OF THAT
 MUSCLE IN YOUR BRAIN! -- THINK!

BOBBI (O.S.)
 Where was his heart then?

COACH
 Put it this way, he had friends who
 weren't looking out for his best
 interests. Like that Justin kid you
 hang around with. Deviants.

Bobbi focuses the camera on the wrestlers.

COACH (O.S.)
 Let's talk about some other
 athletes. How bout John Simpson in
 nineteen eighty-nine? - Now, that
 was a stud.

Bobbi sighs while leaning back against the bleacher.

EXT. FAIRFIELD STREET - JIMMY MORRISON'S TRAILER - DAY

Eddie and Justin read a map as they stand before a street
 sign reading "KING STREET."

JUSTIN
 Hope this is it.

They skateboard down the street of ramshackle mobile homes.

JUSTIN
 Two, two, five seven.

They ride further and notice an old diesel truck parked in
 the weeds of a dilapidated mobile home. It's tires are
 deflated and rust grows over it's oxidized paint.

JUSTIN
 You think?

EDDIE

I bet it's the same one that hit
him. -- Wonder if there's still
blood?

They walk around the truck.

ROCK OLDIES broadcast from the mobile home.

They skittishly walk up to the door and Justin stops.

EDDIE

What's wrong?

JUSTIN

Seemed easier five minutes ago,
when it was just a bull-shit myth.

EDDIE

C'mon we've come too far.

JIMMY (O.S.)

(yells) Get out of my yard!

They inspect the door.

INT. FAIRFIELD GYMNASIUM - DAY

Bobbi films the banners after she finished interviewing the
Coach. The Coach is out of sight.

JOCK 2 (O.S.)

And in this corner, we have the
Rock.

She brings down the camera and focuses it on the JOCKS.

JOCK 1 grabs his crotch in his wrestling uniform.

JOCK 1

Want to wrestle for some of this?

She zooms in on the Jock's gripped crotch.

JOCK 2 (O.S.)

She wouldn't know what to do with
it. -- She digs chicks.

BOBBI (O.S.)

The pride of Fairfield. - Welcome
to the spirit of two thousand and
thirteen. -- A bunch of pricks.

EXT. JIMMY'S TRAILER - DAY

JIMMY (early fifties) exits the screen door with his shirt off. He's a sloppy, long haired redneck with a beer gut. He has tattoos all over his body - some of them are Nazi Swastikas.

JIMMY

I don't need cookies, candles,
religion or any other crap you kids
are peddling.

Eddie shoves Justin forward.

EDDIE

Ga-head.

JIMMY

What is it? -- Go away.

JUSTIN

Excuse me sir. Is your name Jimmy
O'Fallon?

He glares at them. Justin steps slowly towards him.

JUSTIN

I'd like to talk to you about
Steve, Steve Waltz.

Jimmy's eyes glaze over becoming leery.

JIMMY

Dunno him. Get out before I kick
your ass back to your mommy's womb.

He enters the screen door with a slam.

Justin looks back at Eddie for an answer. Eddie motions him forward.

Justin climbs the steps of the mobile home.

JUSTIN

I live in Steve's house. -- His
room. His ghost visits me almost
every night. Please Mr. O'Fallon.
We are doing a class project and
was hoping to interview you for it.

Jimmy appears at the door as Eddie comes behind Justin.

JIMMY

Go away turds, leave me be.

EDDIE
Steve won't let you be either.

JIMMY
Boy, take your lil boyfriend and
git.

Eddie steps up.

EDDIE
He visits you every night too. Look
at this place. -- Look at you.
You've been haunted ever since the
accident.

JIMMY
Shut up boy. You don't know shit.

JUSTIN
No, you don't know...maybe, you
didn't kill Steve that night.

Jimmy glares at him.

JIMMY
Interview?

JUSTIN
That's it dude, just an interview.

JIMMY
What are you punks, ten?

EDDIE
Fourteen.

JIMMY
Same thing...

Jimmy guzzles the beer can empty.

JIMMY
I'll give an interview, but you
must bring me a case of beer first.

Jimmy lifts his leg showing a home arrest anklet.

JIMMY
I'm doin time here.

EDDIE
Beer? -- How can we?...

Justin slaps his shoulder.

JUSTIN
 You got it. (nods) What's your
 poison?

JIMMY
 Get the fuck out of here before I
 do to you like I did that ghost of
 yours.

Justin and Eddie back away from the door.

JUSTIN
 Bud? Blue Ribbon?

A Budweiser can flies out the door and rolls to their feet.

EXT. STEVE'S BACKYARD PORCH - DAY

Eddie and Justin sit drinking Orange Crushes.

JUSTIN
 How can we get a case of beer?

EDDIE
 I overheard my brother one time on
 how he got some...

Bobbi comes up to them and tosses the camera to Eddie.

BOBBI
 Tag, you're it. -- Your turn.

JUSTIN
 How'd it go?

BOBBI
 Sucked.

EDDIE
 We found Jimmy. -- He's trashed.

BOBBI
 You talked to him?

They both nod.

JUSTIN
 He won't do an interview without a
 case of Bud.

BOBBI
 Huh?

Eddie rises with the camera.

EDDIE

Well, I better get this over with.
You sure one of you don't wanna
talk to my Dad?

Bobbi and Justin shake their heads.

EXT. EDDIE'S HOUSE - DAY

Josh sneaks a drink of his Old Man's beer while his CHEER LEADER GIRLFRIEND (17) and his FATHER (BOB 43) wash the Chevy pickup.

Bob kept his strong features, but has gained forty pounds since his high school wrestling days. He lives in the past, stuck in his high school glory days.

Bob flirts with Josh's Girlfriend spraying her with water from the hose.

She wears a jacket over her bikini.

Eddie tapes them washing the truck.

Josh slaps a towel at Eddie's ass.

JOSH

Dad, check Eddie out.

EDDIE

Dad?

BOB

What the hell are you doing Eddie?

EDDIE

Remember, I told you. I have to
interview you for my project.

Eddie gives his patent smile.

BOB

Stop that.

Eddie stops smiling, focusing on his father while Josh and his girlfriend make out in the soapy water.

EDDIE

What do you know about Steve Waltz?

His father stops wiping the truck while thinking back.

BOB
 He was my friend. Used to be my
 best friend at Fairfield.

The Girlfriend giggles as Josh sponges under the top of her bathing suit.

Eddie turns the camera on them.

He zooms on her wet breasts.

BOB (O.S.)
 Steve and I were like your brother
 there. We were the best wrestlers
 on the Spirit team.

Josh keeps making out with his girlfriend.

EDDIE (O.S.)
 Could you beat Steve?

BOB (O.S.)
 I was stronger, but Steve was a
 mean muthah fucker...he got that
 fire in his eye during a match --
 like I hate the fucking world and
 I'm gonna rip its heart out.

Josh's hand goes down to her crotch of her bathing suit.

EDDIE (O.S.)
 (silently)
 That will never be me.

BOB (O.S.)
 Eddie?! Eddie?!

Eddie spins the camera on his waiting father.

EDDIE
 Yeah, he was good huh?

His father nods to him, slapping his head.

BOB
 Yes, that's what I meant. But then
 he met that new girl (thinks)
 Wendy. He lost it.

Eddie focuses on his father.

EDDIE
 Lost what?

BOB

The fire.

Bob sprays the couple.

BOB

Not out in public. Finish the truck.

EDDIE

What fire?

BOB

Don't you ever listen. Steve became one of those Fairfield freaks. He hung out at the library. We never got together after he hooked up with her...her and that other asshole, Ja, Jay...James Grant. Hated that guy. -- Fucking faggot. The Coach and some buds kicked his ass off the team before he could fuck up our Senior season.

EDDIE

Did you go to Steve's funeral?

Bob stops washing the truck.

BOB

Yeah, yeah, the whole town went. -- Except that bitch. She never showed her face again. -- Probably killed him... pushed him in front of the truck.

Suddenly, a bucket of dirty, soapy water cascades down Eddie's head.

Josh and his Girlfriend laugh. -- His dad joins them.

Eddie miserably shivers, trying to steady the camera on them. Water drips down the lens.

INT. JAMIE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Jamie writes questions at her desk with her "Hello Kitty" puffy, pink pencil.

INT. STEVE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Bobbi thumbs through the yearbook as Justin picks up the books.

JUSTIN

I don't get it. -- Steve smoked pot like a dooper, he was a jock, and he read books like a brain.

Bobbi points at the yearbook showing Justin.

BOBBI

Look. -- He also had a girlfriend.

Small hearts circle the same picture that is up in the attic.

JUSTIN

Yeah, the same picture is...

He points to the ceiling.

JUSTIN

...up there.

BOBBI

We should find her. -- That would be an exclusive.

JUSTIN

She's not in the computer. I checked already. Think they did it up there?

BOBBI

Did it?

JUSTIN

You know.

Justin coyly glances down.

BOBBI

Oh pleeze. You think so? -- Show me!

INT. STEVE'S ATTIC - DAY

Justin and Bobbi reach the hidden loft with flashlights.

JUSTIN

He's not here.

Justin turns on the lamp.

BOBBI
A light too?

JUSTIN
Cool huh? -- Why would he make it?

Bobbi rummages around.

BOBBI
Why do you guys build tree houses
and forts?

He shrugs.

JUSTIN
Get away from adults. -- Escape.
Live in our own make believe world.

BOBBI
You want to escape?

JUSTIN
Sometimes. -- You?

BOBBI
All the time.

She picks up the mattress.

JUSTIN
What are ya doin'?

BOBBI
Lookin under the mattress. -- Isn't
that where guys hide things, the
porn mags? My dad did.

There's a dusty photograph of Steve and James. She blows off
the dust.

BOBBI
This is the same photograph in the
Hall of Champions.

Justin rips it from her hands.

JUSTIN
They look like a couple of queers.

Sudden sadness captures Bobbi as she sits across from him on
the sleeping bag.

Justin lays down the photograph and studies her.

JUSTIN

I'm sorry.

BOBBI

What? Nothing to be sorry for.

JUSTIN

Sometimes my A.D.D. causes me to speak before I think. I say some stupid "A" shit.

Bobbi masks herself with her stern gaze.

BOBBI

What's your problem Chuck. (she points at the photo) They do look like queers.

JUSTIN

I know. Not them, but about you...
I know.

BOBBI

Know what Chuck?

He pulls out the worn Doctor's referral from his pants pocket and hands it to her.

JUSTIN

You dropped it leaving the counselor's office.

She unfolds it and reads it.

BOBBI

Who have you told?

Justin shakes his head.

JUSTIN

No one. That wouldn't be a cool thing to do to anybody...mostly a (he nods) a friend. I've kept it in my pocket since I picked it up. Do you really think you're...gay?

BOBBI

I don't know. Everybody at school says I am.

JUSTIN

Those assholes don't know.

BOBBI

Maybe they do. Maybe they know
before I have been given the
opport...

She cuts her word to an uneasy silence.

Justin smirks and shrugs.

JUSTIN

I've never had the opportunity for
"real" sex either.

BOBBI

I just want to decide for myself.
When you have "fake" sex, what do
you think about?

Justin embarrassingly pulls his spiked hair.

JUSTIN

Like chicks... or dicks?

BOBBI

(giggles)

Sorta. Like my Mother would never
think about...you know, when she
was our age. It seems it's just so
easy for other kids. I mean guys or
girls? It just comes so natural for
others.

JUSTIN

Put it this way, when I have "fake"
sex... I try to keep other, you
know, things out of my mind.

Bobbi sheepishly nods.

BOBBI

Me too.

JUSTIN

Have you seen the doctor?

She shakes her head.

BOBBI

I'm afraid I'll have to tell my
Mom.

JUSTIN

If you go, tell me what she says?
Interested to know that's all.

A sudden chilly wind comes over them. -- She shivers.

JUSTIN

He's coming, he might not like us
being here.

70'S ROCK BALLAD PLAYS

EXT. OLD HIGHWAY 9 - NIGHT

Clouds begin to cover a full moon as a breeze blows the dead leaves across the weeded, pot-holed asphalt of what was a highway.

The highway sign warbles in the wind.

EXT. COACH'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

From an outside window, the Coach sits alone eating at the huge table.

EXT. JAMIE'S FRONT PORCH - NIGHT

Eddie films Jamie going over her questions.

He leans forward and kisses her cheek.

She shivers coyly.

EXT. STEVE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

From his window, Justin and Bobbi play Guitar Hero and bounce around like crazy rock stars.

INT. STEVE'S HALL - NIGHT

Joyce listens intently at Justin's door. Brian mischievously pinches her ass going by. She smiles and hugs him mouthing the words, "He has a girlfriend."

INT. STEVE'S ATTIC - NIGHT

Steve is but a black figure laying on the sleeping bag.

70's ROCK BALLAD ENDS

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - DAY.

SHERIFF (65) leans back in his chair with his feet on top of the desk. A stogie is firmly entrenched in his mouth and a phone is to his ear. His gut hangs out of his uniform since it's been years since this small town has given him any exercise in crime.

SHERIFF

Hell Eli, damn Madge wants to see the world. -- Good Sam Club here we come.

Jamie and Eddie stand nervously outside his door.

Sheriff nods them in.

SHERIFF

Hey Eli, I have some kids from the school wanna interview me...yep me. School project, I suppose. Let's take a few geese out by the farm tomorrow...

He laughs to a smokers cough.

SHERIFF

...Oh hell, that never stopped us before. Hunting season starts when I got my rifle in my hand. Bye.

He hangs up the phone and motions them to sit.

Eddie lifts the camera ready to shoot.

SHERIFF

Aren't you Bob's boy. The other one?

EDDIE

Eddie.

SHERIFF

Your brother is one hell of a wrestler. Your Pop was too...strong as an ox. Now that boy had strength...

He points to his temple.

SHERIFF

...not much up there, but you
should know...he is your dad and
all.

He focuses on Jamie.

SHERIFF

Now, lookie at you all gussied up
like Barbara Walters.

Jamie smiles while unfolding wide lined paper with questions
on it.

SHERIFF

Looks like you are all business
honey. -- Ask away.

JAMIE

Thank you Sheriff Sumner.

Sheriff nods to Eddie.

SHERIFF

Camera ready boy?

EDDIE

Oh!

He flips on the camera.

SHERIFF

Like father, like son.

JAMIE

In your esti-ment-tasion, who are
the top athletes you have ever seen
at Fairfield?

SHERIFF

(cocks his head) Hmmm...Eddie's
father there. Jim Jackson, Bill
Williams...that black boy in eighty-
one Jamal, forgot his last name -
he could run like the dickens - boy
was fast. He led Fairfield in track
and still holds the most rushing
yards... Too bad war got him.

Eddie focuses the camera away from the Sheriff and goes
around the room to the deer head on the wall. He zooms on the
eyes of the deer.

JAMIE (O.S.)
How bout Steve Waltz?

Camera jumps on a close up of Jamie.

SHERIFF (O.S.)
Oh, by all means, can't leave the
Coach's boy out. I've never seen a
wrestler pin a foe so rapidly...

Camera moves to the sheriff who is seated upright.

WHAM! -- The camera jumps as he slaps the table.

SHERIFF
Ref was slapping that mat in less
than a second -- faster than I
could take a piss...hmmm, sorry
misses. He was fast.

WHAM! -- The camera jumps again as he slaps the table.

SHERIFF
Boy, never lost a match.

JAMIE (O.S.)
Didn't he get hit by a truck?

SHERIFF
Yep, a drunk driver hit him...

He points straight into the camera.

SHERIFF
...A boy lost his life due to drunk
driving -- Kids, don't drink and
drive. (goes back to Jamie) Always
here to serve the public. You guys
don't drink?

The camera shakes back and forth.

EDDIE (O.S.)
Don't drive. We're only fourteen.

SHERIFF
Kids start early these days. Where
were we?

JAMIE (O.S.)
Steve.

SHERIFF

Oh yeah, devastated the Coach.
First his wife passed away from
cancer. -- Then his only boy.

JAMIE (O.S.)

Weren't you the first person there
after he was hit by the truck?

The Sheriff suspiciously meets eye contact with Jamie, who admits guilt by lowering her head. He lifts his head to the nervous twitching camera.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY - COMPUTER LAB - DAY

Bobbi smacks the computer she is working on.

BOBBI

Fuc...Fudge, it froze up on me
again. I'll never edit this in
time.

Rian reads Steve's yearbook beside her while texting on her cellular.

RIAN

Steve was popular. How many people
will sign your yearbook?

BOBBI

Rian, be useful and get the
Librarian for me.

She lays open the yearbook on the desk and scampers out.

INT. STEVE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Justin spins in his chair at his computer desk. The photograph of Steve and James is beside the monitor.

Brian sticks his head in the bedroom door.

BRIAN

How's it going?

JUSTIN

It?

BRIAN

Your project for school. How's your
project going?

JUSTIN

It's cool.

BRIAN

If you need any help. -- I live here too. Me and your Mom sleep right down the hall.

Brian is about to pull away.

JUSTIN

Dad?

Brian cocks his head to him.

JUSTIN

I could use some help finding somebody.

His Dad proudly kneels at the desk and picks up the photograph.

BRIAN

Who's this?

JUSTIN

The one on the left is Steve. I know where he lives. He is the ghost I share the room with...

Brian scans around the room.

JUSTIN

...He's not here now. If you feel a chill, you know he's around. It's the other guy I need to find.

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - DAY

The Sheriff rises from his chair as Eddie follows him with the camera. Eddie is shaking now.

The Sheriff closes his office door and sits back down.

SHERIFF

What is the fascination with Steve Waltz?...And his death?

EDDIE

School project on past Fairfield athletes.

SHERIFF

I understand the project. -- Do you?

They lower their heads.

SHERIFF

C'mon kids, spill the beans.

EDDIE

Beans?

SHERIFF

A law enforcement expression. -- Tell the truth. Why Steve Waltz?

They say nothing.

Sheriff points an accusing finger at the camera.

SHERIFF

Eddie, I know your father. -- What's this about boy?

JAMIE

It's about his ghost.

Eddie jerks the camera back to Jamie.

SHERIFF

Ghost? That's an urban myth. -- There's no such thing. (to Jamie) Have you seen this ghost?

JAMIE

No.

SHERIFF

There you go.

JAMIE

But he is real...Justin, he's this cool kid, he's seen him.

SHERIFF

Where has he seen him?

Eddie wants to duct tape her mouth shut.

JAMIE

Justin lives in his old house. -- He sleeps in the same room. Steve lives up in the attic in this cool loft.

SHERIFF

In the attic? And, you believe him?

She nods.

JAMIE

Yeah, they watch TV, play Guitar
Hero together, everything.

Sheriff turns to Eddie and the camera.

SHERIFF

Eddie? Am I to believe Justin is
friends with this ghost? You can't
be that dumb. -- Turn that thing
off.

Eddie drops the camera to his hip with the red light still
filming.

EDDIE

He needs our help. -- He is trying
to tell us something.

The Sheriff rises to his feet with a laugh.

SHERIFF

Seems to me, this Justin boy is
trying to tell you something...that
he is loony.

JAMIE

He's our friend. -- He's not crazy.

He opens the door to let them out.

SHERIFF

C'mon kids interview is completed,
you're wasting my time.

Jamie rises reading her notebook paper.

JAMIE

Sheriff! -- Was Steve murdered?...

She timidly stares at him.

JAMIE

...Yes or no? How did he really
die?

He glares at her while shaking his head in astonishment.

SHERIFF

Why doesn't this Justin boy just
ask the ghost? Go interview him. --
See if he says more than...

He gets in their faces.

SHERIFF

...BOO!

Eddie and Jamie jump toward the door.

SHERIFF

(laughing) Bye kids. - Go play
somewhere else.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY - COMPUTER LAB - DAY

Rian skips in and plops in her chair next to Bobbi.

RIAN

Wendy will be here in a minute.

Bobbi studies her.

BOBBI

Wendy?

RIAN

Yeah, in a minute.

Bobbi snatches up the yearbook and hurriedly flips the pages.

BOBBI

How do you know her name is Wendy?

RIAN

Dah, because that's her name. She
has a name thingie on her desk.

Bobbi points to the picture of Steve's girlfriend.

BOBBI

Wendy Schwartz?

Rian shakes her head.

RIAN

Nope Wendy Allen.

Bobbi studies the yearbook photo.

BOBBI
You sure, she looks like her.

RIAN
It's Allen.

Bobbi slumps in her chair waiting for help.

RIAN
Didn't Mom have another name before
she got married to Dad?

BOBBI
Holy shit!

Bobbi stares at her sister in wonder.

BOBBI
I take it back. You weren't hacked
up from a lugy of a Dragon.

BEEP! -- Bobbie pulls out her cellular and reads it.

BOBBI
Mom's home. -- I can dump you off
now.

INT. STEVE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Brian clicks at the keyboard and mouse like a madman.
Justin follows along impressed by his Father's skills.

BRIAN
Ta'da.

Justin stares at the monitor.

BRIAN
Sometimes it's easier finding a
person by digging deeper in the
past. We didn't find James, but we
found his parents. They still own a
home in Fairfield, by county
records.

JUSTIN
Wow!

Brian hits a key and the paper is printed. Justin pulls out
the paper as his Dad heads to the door.

JUSTIN

Hey Dad?

Brian glances back.

JUSTIN

Thanks.

Brian nods and shivers from a quick chill.

BRIAN

Anytime.

He closes the bedroom door. -- Suddenly, "Guitar Hero" starts up with a 70's ROCK SONG.

JUSTIN

OK. I'll play this song one more time. Then that's it. -- No more moldy oldies.

He grabs up the guitar and plays.

JUSTIN

Oh, I think we found James.

INT. COACH'S STUDY - DAY

PHONE RINGS (O.S.)

A photograph of the lined up 1985 wrestling team is on the wall. Steve stands away from the team. Everyone is smiling except him.

COACH (O.S.)

Well, hello sheriff! -- What can I do for you?...Yep, how'd it go? What?...

His reflection is seen in the glass case.

COACH

...Hmmm, what did they ask?

He goes up to the case and studies it.

COACH

It's that little punk Justin.

He laughs.

COACH

They don't have you believen now?
C'mon Dave. Of course I know what
date's coming up... I read about
him too. -- Hopefully he'll go back
to prison.

He notices the empty hook on the wall.

He begins to seethe in anger, searching.

COACH

Maybe, something needs to be done
Dave.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY - DAY

Justin, Eddie, Jamie, and Bobbi gather at the back table.

They are all speaking at once.

The Librarian walks by carrying books.

They all shut up as she passes.

BOBBI

How does he know?!

EDDIE

Jamie spilled the beans.

Jamie breathes deeply.

JAMIE

He's the Sheriff.

BOBBI

He'll talk to the Coach.

JUSTIN

Eddie, we need to make a beer run.

EXT. PIGGLY WIGGLY GROCERY STORE LOADING DOCK - DAY.

A Budweiser truck pulls up to the dock.

The DRIVER hops out and goes into the loading bay.

Justin and Eddie jump out behind a dumpster and hide behind
the rear of the truck. They have skateboards in their hands.

JUSTIN
Keep watch.

Eddie peers from behind the truck.

EDDIE
Nobody.

Justin pulls up on the compartment door. It doesn't budge.

JUSTIN
Fuck! It's locked.

The Driver walks out to the truck.

EDDIE
He's coming.

The Driver unlocks the beer compartment. He stops, cocking his head listening. He shrugs and goes back to the front of the truck.

Justin and Eddie slide from under the truck with their backs on the skateboards.

Quickly, Justin opens the door and lifts a case.

The Driver runs to the rear as Justin and Eddie skateboard away with the beer.

DRIVER
HEY!

Eddie falls off, but quickly recovers.

DRIVER (O.S.)
Lil bastards.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL ART CLASS - DAY

Bobbi and Jamie sit at a table.

The Sheriff enters the class talking to the Teacher.

Jamie elbows Bobbi as the Teacher comes up to them.

TEACHER
The Sheriff would like to talk to you. Where's Justin and Eddie?

BOBBI
They went to the library.

TEACHER

I didn't give them a pass.

JAMIE

They're researching for the project.

EXT. JIMMY O'FALLON'S TRAILER - DAY.

Justin and Eddie stand before the screen door on the trailer. Justin holds the case of beer and Eddie steadies the camera. The skateboards are tucked in the weeds.

JUSTIN

Nobody answers. Maybe he's in prison already.

EDDIE

Ah hell, we'll be joining him.

They slowly walk around the trailer peeking in the windows.

They go by the dilapidated diesel truck.

THE TRUCK'S AIR HORN frightens them with a blood curdling blow.

They slowly walk up to the truck by the passenger door.

PASSENGER DOOR CREAKS OPEN.

JIMMY

(spooky) Going...my...way?

They hesitantly climb up into the cab carrying the case of beer and the camera.

Jimmy sits in the driver's seat with Justin in the passenger seat. Eddie is between them with the camera.

Jimmy pops open a Bud can.

JIMMY

Didn't think you little turds had it in you.

He wears a muscle shirt which shows a swastika tattoo. He swigs a gulp.

Eddie films him drinking and the tattoo.

EDDIE

Cool tattoo.

JIMMY
You know what it is?

JUSTIN
It's not cool. It's a Nazi
swastika. -- It's fucked up.

EDDIE
(shrugs) Looks cool to me.

Jimmy nods while giving them both a beer. -- To their dismay.

JIMMY
Yep, it is fucked up, but I didn't
give a shit-ass about its fucking
meaning in World War whatever. --
It meant survival in the pen. (he
touches it) I wore this shit to
survive my own battles. -- Keep
myself alive. Looks like I'll need
them assholes again.

Eddie pops open his beer and takes a swig. Justin follows
suit and chokes it down.

JUSTIN
Don't they like train you for a
job?

JIMMY
Rehabilitation?

Jimmy nods laughing.

JIMMY
They trained me to be a criminal. -
A continuing convict. Shouldn't
have gone there in the first place.

They all take a swig of beer.

JUSTIN
Is this the truck you hit Steve
with?

Eddie films the truck looking out the front windshield.

JIMMY
Sure, I drank a couple of beers
before driving that night, sure I
wasn't supposed to take a semi on
that highway, but I did that same
thing for two straight years.

(MORE)

JIMMY (cont'd)

I can hold my beer. -- I never saw that kid.

JUSTIN

You sure you really hit him?

JIMMY

Fuck, who knows? All of a sudden he was there. -- Kid could have been pushed. Somehow I got screwed, railroaded. Fucking kid was a big time athlete. -- Like he couldn't move fast enough. Father, the Coach. (crossing his fingers) Tight with the Sheriff. I never even saw the body after I hit him.

EDDIE

Do you think he was murdered?

He looks back into the camera.

JIMMY

By me?

The camera shrugs on him.

JUSTIN

No, by someone else?

JIMMY

Heard the kid was wearing all black like a fucking terrorist or army ranger. Kid was probably robbing houses or shit. Doped up. You know those goody-good jocks always have a dark side to them. Their shit stinks too.

Eddie giggles becoming drunk.

JUSTIN

How do you know?

Jimmy takes a swig of beer, staring at him.

JIMMY

I was all-state baseball, lettered...

He puts a can of beer on his head.

JIMMY

The prom king.

Justin and Eddie drunkenly laugh. Jimmy glares at them and joins them.

He tosses the can out the front windshield. -- There never was a glass window.

Jimmy grips the wheel.

JIMMY
I miss "Weiser."

The kids cock their heads at him.

JIMMY
He was my dog. -- My only family.
He rode shotgun with me, my Tonto.
After I was arrested they took him
to the pound. Never saw him
again...I hope a good family took
him in. He deserved a long, good
life.

He checks his watch-less wrist.

JIMMY
I think it's bud time. Don't worry
this truck is going nowhere now.

EDDIE
Not like you are going to drive
drunk again.

Eddie tosses his empty can out of the front window. Justin swigs his and throws the empty out.

They each pop another one.

JIMMY
Check this out...

He picks up an old eight track tape from the floor board and inserts it into the dash radio.

1970's ROCK MUSIC PLAYS.

JIMMY
...still works (elbows Eddie)
spooky huh? I was listening to this
that same night going down highway
nine.

They take a swig of beer.

Jimmy rolls his head around in thought.

JIMMY

Two days from now will be the anniversary of that kid's death.

Justin contemplates his last words.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY - DAY

The Sheriff talks to the Librarian as Bobbi and Jamie sit waiting at her desk, a few feet away.

LIBRARIAN

Haven't seen them Sheriff.

Bobbi picks up the Librarian's name plate and studies the Librarian.

BOBBI

(to Jamie) You never saw who gave you that article?

JAMIE

It was Steve.

Sheriff and the Librarian go to the desk.

SHERIFF

Keep them here until school gets out.

EXT. JIMMY O'FALLON'S TRUCK - DAY.

Justin and Eddie tumble out of the passenger door drunk off their asses.

Justin climbs back up by the door filming inside.

JUSTIN (O.S.)

(slurring) Thanks for the interview Jimmy. We're gonna help you out man, ya got my word.

JIMMY

Sorry, I can't give you guys a ride home.

JUSTIN (O.S.)

Dude, like I would want you to.

TRUCK AIR HORN TRUMPETS.

Justin falls back into Eddie giggling.

The Kids skateboard down the middle of the street, swerving and ramming into each other like Roller Derby drunkards.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM - DAY

The Sheriff and the Coach are in a serious discussion while Wrestlers practice.

They march together out of the gym.

INT. STEVE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Justin drunkenly drops in the back door.

JUSTIN
(hushed slur over his
shoulder)
I'll see you at school tomorrow.

EDDIE (O.S.)
(laughing)
Dude, I'm so drunk.

JUSTIN
Go home. -- Try to stay on the
sidewalks.

Justin quietly stumbles around with the camera in his hand.

He burps loudly and covers his mouth praying his mother didn't hear. He snags a bag of Fritos.

INT. STEVE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Justin teeters, searching for his Mother while stuffing his mouth with chips.

JUSTIN
Mom?

He peeks out the front window.

He falls on the couch peering through the camera's viewfinder.

JUSTIN
I am alone.

DOOR SLAMS (O.S. Upstairs)

He glares at the ceiling.

JUSTIN

Guess not.

INT. STEVE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Justin peeks the camera past the door frame.

JUSTIN

Allie, allie in come free.

He scans the room and turns on the computer.

JUSTIN

No music today Steve?

He lays the camera down.

THE CLOSET DOOR FLIES OPEN WITH A CRASH.

Justin startles and stumbles to the closet.

JUSTIN

Dude, stop the scary shit. What do you want now?

INT. STEVE'S ATTIC - DAY

Justin teeters back and forth while crawling along the beam. He belly flops on the sleeping bag.

JUSTIN

Shit Steve, I'm so fucked up. Eddie and I went over to Jimmy's. You know, the guy who, supposedly, killed you. We got so wasted. What do you want dude?

He rolls over.

JUSTIN

Stop playin hide-n-seek with me. Be like god damn Casper that fucking Friendly Ghost.

Justin notices a black boot in his face.

His surprised wide eyes follow the boot along black pants to the ski mask of Steve.

Steve's bloody eyes glare at him.

Justin jumps to the opposite side of the bag.

Justin scrutinizes Steve with trepidation.

JUSTIN

Hey.

STEVE WALTZ

Hey.

JUSTIN

You speak.

STEVE WALTZ

You slur.

JUSTIN

Why am I so fucking special?

STEVE WALTZ

You aren't scared of me?

JUSTIN

I'm more afraid of living assholes
like you.

STEVE WALTZ

(shaking his head)

You are stuck in stereotypes...
don't let me scare you.

Steve lifts off his mask reveling a grotesque face of a
teenager hit by a truck.

JUSTIN

You're gross.

STEVE WALTZ

The shit outside doesn't reflect or
represent what's inside.

JUSTIN

Why me?

STEVE WALTZ

Only you can help me.

JUSTIN

But, why me?

STEVE WALTZ

Because you are like me. -- I can
help you too.

JUSTIN

I don't need your help...I'm not
the ghost here.

Steve nods.

STEVE WALTZ

So you say.

Justin shivers from a cool chill.

STEVE WALTZ

A teenager in far worse
circumstances than ourselves once
wrote, "It's utterly impossible for
me to build my life on a foundation
of chaos, suffering and death. I
see the world being slowly
transformed into a wilderness."

Justin cocks his head in bewilderment.

STEVE WALTZ

"I hear the approaching thunder
that, one day, will destroy us too,
I feel the suffering of millions.
And yet, when I look up at the sky,
I somehow feel that everything will
change for the better, that this
cruelty too shall end, that peace
and tranquility will return once
more."

Justin meets Steve's eyes with empathy.

STEVE WALTZ

The thunder is coming.

JUSTIN

What's coming?

STEVE WALTZ

He's coming. You must bring them
all.

JUSTIN

Who? "Bring them all?" C'mon Steve,
damn it, who's coming?

Steve glares at him as he dissolves within the beams.

STEVE WALTZ

My Father.

Steve disappears leaving Justin alone.

EXT. STEVE'S DRIVEWAY - COACH'S SUV - DAY

The Coach drives past a few homes down from Justin's.

A car is parked outside Bobbi's house.

The Coach slowly drives up next to the car.

Inside the car, Bobbi's Mother kisses ANOTHER MAN.

She quickly notices the coach and meets his angry, hurtful eyes.

COACH
Fucking whore!

He brakes wildly into Justin's driveway.

The Coach slams the door shut and stalks toward the car.

Bobbi's Mother frantically motions for the Other Man to drive away. -- The car peels out leaving the Coach standing in the street.

INT. STEVE'S ATTIC - DAY

Justin lies on the beam facing down into the closet.

BAM, BAM (O.S. On the front door)

He listens intently.

FRONT DOOR OPENS (O.S.)

KEYS JANGLE (O.S.)

His eyes widen in terror, but he keeps silently still.

INT. STEVE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

The Coach scours the house and discovers the open Frito bag. He focuses on the stairwell.

INT. STEVE'S ATTIC - DAY

Justin keeps his eyes on the closet carpet.

BEDROOM DOOR CREAKS OPEN (O.S.)

Justin slowly pulls back in the attic.

INT. STEVE'S ROOM - DAY

The Coach stands before the computer his angry reflection filling the monitor screen.

HUSHED WOOD SCRAPING (O.S. In attic)

He cocks his head towards the ceiling.

INT. STEVE'S ATTIC - DAY

Justin lies down a few feet from the attic opening. He keeps silently still.

Suddenly, like a horrific Jack-in-the-Box, the COACH'S HEAD pops up into the attic opening.

Frightened, Justin scampers along the beams to the loft.

COACH

There's no where to hide boy.

The Coach struggles to lift himself into the attic.

Justin backs to the safety of the loft. He faces the oncoming Coach.

COACH

You afraid of me boy? I won't hurt you. You've been mighty nosey. -- You get Bobbi to steal Steve's jacket? -- I need it back.

The Coach menacingly crawls along the beams.

JUSTIN

Get away from me.

COACH

Isn't my son's ghost up here with you?

JUSTIN

He is afraid of you too.

The Coach is only a few feet from the loft.

COACH

Now why would he be afraid of me?

JUSTIN

You tell me. -- What did you do to him?

COACH

You need to stop these ghost stories boy. He never was here was he?

Justin yanks down the photograph of Steve's girlfriend.

JUSTIN

Who's this then?

The Coach stares at it.

JUSTIN

You had no idea he hid out here, did you? I think he hid out from you.

The Coach glares at him.

COACH

You little son of a bitch.

He lunges at Justin, but Justin side steps him back on the sleeping bag.

The Coach quickly grabs his feet and pulls him under him.

He pins Justin in a gripping head lock.

COACH

Maybe you should have gone out for wrestling.

Justin is being strangled of breath.

COACH

I hate kids like you. - Weak, smart mouthed lil shits.

Justin's face is red in anguish. Everything is becoming blurred.

Justin flails and swings his hands around. On hand lands right in the Coach's crotch. He firmly grips the Coach's balls.

The Coach painfully moans while loosening his hold.

Justin squirms out and scurries away on the beams.

The Coach, though wincing from pain, rises to his feet and stalks towards Justin.

COACH

You don't play by the rules boy.

The Coach closes the gap between them.

COACH

We'll see who wins the next match boy.

Justin rises to his feet as the Coach is about two feet from him.

He glances down at the pink fiberglass.

JUSTIN

I'm not a team player.

Justin jumps onto the fiberglass insulation.

Nothing happens.

A shit-ass grin is planted on the Coach's face.

Justin jumps with more tenacity.

CEILING CRACKS (O.S.)

The Coach slips his grin.

Justin plunges out of the attic into a bright hole in the ceiling floor.

INT. STEVE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Justin and debris fall from the ceiling. He lands on the computer and smacks his head on the desk.

He lies wheezy on the floor with his computer monitor beside him. The bag containing Steve's mask is beside it.

The Coach pulls back his leg and kicks.

His foot strikes the monitor face and it explodes in shards of glass and sparks.

He bends down and grabs the bag.

Suddenly, Joyce stands in the door way.

JOYCE
What the hell is going on here?!

INT. STEVE'S ROOM - LATER

Justin lies under covers in bed with an ice pack to his head.
Joyce comforts him.

JUSTIN
Liars, mom. They are all lying.

JOYCE
Brian?...Brian?

Brian inspects the damage as the Sheriff walks in.

JOYCE
What's going to happen to him?

SHERIFF
What do you mean?

JOYCE
He attacked my son. -- What is
going to happen to him?

The Sheriff holds out his hands trying to calm the masses.

SHERIFF
I got his statement.

JUSTIN
Lies! Bullshit lies! -- Why don't
you take mine? Afraid?!

JOYCE
Justin! Stop it! (to Sheriff) And?

BRIAN
Joyce?

JOYCE
(to Brian) What?! I want to know.

The Sheriff lifts the medication from the night stand.

SHERIFF
Seems your son has a problem.

Brian pulls out the cigar case showing them the marijuana.

JOYCE
Where was that?

Brian lowers his head.

BRIAN
Under his bed with some other things.

JUSTIN
It's not mine...It's Steve's. You don't believe me.

SHERIFF
Your kid always plays hooky from school and gets drunk Mrs. Morrison. This is quite a bit of pot. He could be doing some time in Juvenile Detention for this.

JUSTIN
Fuck you! I'm being setup. Is this what you did to Steve?...You murderers.

Joyce stands over her son, gazing at him like a stranger.

SHERIFF
Why don't we talk outside?

JUSTIN
Don't believe them mom. -- LIARS!

They leave Justin alone gather in the hall.

HALL.

JOYCE
(sobbing) But that doesn't give him the right to hurt my child. This is my house. -- Not his.

SHERIFF
He said Justin was paranoid, delusional, thought someone was after him. He was trying to calm down your son.

JUSTIN (O.S.)
Liar!

They walk further away.

SHERIFF
Maybe the mixture of alcohol, pot and (shakes the pill bottle) these caused some type of paranoia.

BRIAN

He never took those pills for the past three months.

SHERIFF

Maybe he should have.

JOYCE

He keeps saying the house is haunted.

Brian looks to the sheriff.

BRIAN

Who's Steve?

The Sheriff cocks his head.

SHERIFF

Steve is the Coach's son who was killed by a drunk driver years ago. He must of heard the stories and the project they were doing put a face to the urban legend.

JUSTIN (O.S.)

LIARS!

Sheriff nods to his parents.

SHERIFF

You better get control of your child or I'll have to. There are no charges pending at this time. You have enough problems with him. However, that isn't to say this issue can't be brought up again. A little time in jail might be what that boy really needs.

He is about to leave.

SHERIFF

By the way, Mr. Waltz wants you out of this house in two weeks. He won't charge you for the damage.

He leaves them alone.

Brian tries to hug Joyce.

JOYCE

Brian, what are we going to do?

A WINDOW OPENS (O.S.)

They quickly look at each other and dart to Justin's bedroom.

BEDROOM

The curtains blow back from the rush of wind.

Justin's back is seen running in the woods.

EXT. FOREST PATH - DAY

Justin runs across the path in a dead heat.

FAINT YELLS (O.S.)

Justin keeps running and stumbling over limbs.

EXT. STEVE'S DRIVEWAY - LATER

Another police car arrives in front of the house.

A worried Bobbi and Rian stand outside with the OTHER NEIGHBORS.

RIAN

I wonder what happened.

Bobbi taps a DEPUTY'S shoulder.

BOBBI

Sir. What happened?

Deputy turns to the neighbors.

DEPUTY

Nothing to be frightened about here. A boy ran away, that's all. Please go back to your homes.

He looks down at Rian and Bobbi.

DEPUTY

Did you know this Justin boy? Did he have many friends?

Bobbi slowly backs away, pulling her sister back.

RIAN

Hey.

BOBBI
No sir. -- Not my friend.

EXT. BACK WOODS - NIGHT

FLASH LIGHTS comb the dense woods.

Justin leans against a tree breathing heavy, shivering.

EXT. STEVE'S BACKYARD PORCH - NIGHT

The fatigued Police slump out of the woods with flashlights.

Brian has his arms wrapped around Joyce as they wait in anticipation on the whereabouts of their son.

The Sheriff shakes his head to them.

SHERIFF
Nothing. We are going to call off the search till tomorrow.

JOYCE
Tomorrow? He can't be out there alone. It's cold.

SHERIFF
Usually in cases like these, the kids usually end up downtown getting a malt or either go to a friend's.

JOYCE
But, he never had any friends.

Sheriff nods.

SHERIFF
Tell you what, if he's not back by tomorrow night we'll bring in Simpson's dogs. Best smellers this side of Craig County.

He gathers his men.

BRIAN
We should go in.

JOYCE
You can...I'm waiting here.

He leaves her on the porch staring into the darken forest.

EXT. BACK WOODS - NIGHT

Justin is coiled up, shivering in the wet matted leaves. An owl hoots over him.

Steve bends down and touches Justin's shoulder.

Justin trembles from his touch and shivers more.

INT. BOBBI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Rian picks at Steve's letterman jacket which lays on the bed.

Bobbi pulls a sweater over her head.

RIAN
You gonna find him?

BOBBI
Try.

RIAN
You love him?

Bobbi shakes her head.

BOBBI
I'm fourteen.

RIAN
The Coach caught Mom cheating on him.

Bobbi ties her sneakers next to Rian.

BOBBI
Maybe this will teach her a lesson.

RIAN
She's nervous. -- She's afraid the Coach might do something.

BOBBI
Yeah, he's a lunatic. I think she's more nervous because she got caught.

Bobbi opens her dresser drawer and pulls out a bottle of pills from under some clothes.

Bobbi tosses the bottle to her Sister.

BOBBI

This is her valium, make sure she only takes two. She's been down this road before. -- Don't worry.

Suddenly, the window bursts open with a chilling, beckoning gust of wind.

Bobbi rises grabbing the jacket.

RIAN

Don't leave.

Bobbi grabs her shoulders and looks her in the eye.

BOBBI

Justin needs me...you take care of Mom. Make sure she gets her pills. I'll be back, don't tell her anything...our secret.

She kisses her Sister on the forehead and peeks out her window.

A DARK FIGURE waits for her below.

EXT. BACK WOODS - NIGHT

Bobbi hurriedly follows a blurry dark image moving ahead.

BOBBI

Steve! Stop!

She chases him in the darkness.

She halts as Steve just disappears. She spins around searching for him.

BOBBI

Steve!?

LEAVES RUSTLE (O.S.)

She notices a human form next to a huge Oak trunk.

She slowly walks up to Justin as he shivers in a coiled ball.

Bobbi covers Justin with Steve's jacket and hugs him in the darkness.

From above, Steve watches from a tree limb.

INT. STEVE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Brian cleans up the mess from earlier.

He looks up into the ceiling hole as he hooks up another monitor to the computer.

He picks up the camera and plugs it into the computer.

EXT. STEVE'S BACKYARD PORCH - NIGHT

Joyce still waits bundled in a blanket on the porch steps.

She stares off in the darkness.

EXT. BACK WOODS - MORNING

Justin wakes, covered with the jacket and in the arms of Bobbi.

She wakes up groggy.

JUSTIN

Hey.

He wraps his arms around her.

BOBBI

Hey Chuck.

JUSTIN

How did you find me?

She notices his arms around her, but nuzzles deeper into him.

BOBBI

Steve.

JUSTIN

He needs our help.

He winces from his hangover.

BOBBI

I know.

JUSTIN

We have to bring them all.

She cocks her head.

BOBBI

Huh?

JUSTIN

Tonight. Thunder is coming.

EXT. STEVE'S BACKYARD PORCH - DAY

Joyce is asleep wrapped in a blanket.

Brian picks up Joyce in his arms.

She rests her head on his chest as he carries her in the house.

EXT. FOREST PATH - DAY

Justin and Bobbi hasten along the path.

JUSTIN

We need everybody together. We'll get Eddie and Jamie. Once we get Jimmy, they'll all come. Oh, I found James too.

Bobbi stops him.

BOBBI

Really?! I think I found Wendy.

JUSTIN

No shit. Steve said to bring them all.

BOBBI

Where's the camera?

JUSTIN

In my room.

BOBBI

I'm gonna get it. -- I'll meet you later tonight. Oh here...

She hands him a cellular.

BOBBI

...Don't beat it this time. -- It's Rian's.

Justin nods inserting the phone in his jacket pocket.

JUSTIN
Be careful.

Bobbi runs off down the path.

INT. STEVE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Brian is reviewing the scenes from the camera.

JUSTIN IS HIT IN THE FACE WITH A SNOW BALL.

LADDER AGAINST THE WALL (O.S.)

Brian rises and retreats back into the closet.

The window opens and Bobbi enters.

Brian watches her as she sneaks to the computer. She studies the hole in the ceiling. Puzzled, she glances back at the computer screen.

Brian steps out. -- She jumps in fright.

BRIAN
I'm not going to hurt you.

She takes a big gulp.

BRIAN
I just wanna know. -- Is he
alright?

She nods afraid to speak.

BRIAN
Does he need anything?

BOBBI
Huh, huh, he needs you to go to old
highway nine at ten thirty tonight.
-- He says, to bring them all.

She slowly lifts up her camera.

BOBBI
I need this.

She backs to the window.

BRIAN
Thanks.

EXT. JIMMY O'FALLON'S TRAILER - DAY

Eddie, and Jamie bang on his trailer.

JIMMY

What the fuck!? I hear ya, I hear ya.

He slams out the door in his boxers.

Jamie hides her face.

JIMMY

Lil bastards.

He studies them.

JIMMY

Where's the beer?

EDDIE

We need to talk. -- Sober.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY - DAY

The Librarian scans books back in at the front desk. Bobbi stands before her.

The Librarian looks up frightened.

LIBRARIAN

Bobbi? -- The whole town is looking for you and Justin.

Bobbi studies her.

LIBRARIAN

Bobbi, what's wrong?

Bobbie raises her camera.

BOBBI

I need to interview you.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY - SOUND BOOTH - DAY

Bobbi sets the camera on a tripod facing the Librarian (Wendy), who sits at a table.

WENDY

You know I could walk away at anytime.

BOBBI
Yep, you won't though.

WENDY
Why is that?

BOBBI
You need to tell your story. --
Just like Steve.

Wendy smirks as Bobbi looks through the lens at her.

WENDY
And, you are fifteen?

BOBBI
Fourteen. Ready?

Wendy nods.

BOBBI
What is your name?

WENDY
Wendy Allen...used to be Wendy
Schwartz.

She opens Steve's yearbook pointing at her picture.

BOBBI
The same Wendy Schwartz who dated
Steve Waltz?

WENDY
Yes. Please don't tell anybody
else...mostly his father. Since I
left Fairfield I have been since
married and divorced.

BOBBI
Where did you go?

WENDY
California, to live with my Father.

BOBBI
Why did you come back?

WENDY
Something pulled me back...

BOBBI
Steve?

WENDY
Dunno. Unfinished business.

BOBBI
You never went to his funeral?

WENDY
He was killed after I left
Fairfield.

BOBBI
He loved you. -- Why did you leave?

Wendy cocks her head at Bobbi.

WENDY
There are some things, adult
things, someone of your age
shouldn't hear.

Bobbi shakes her head and glares accusingly at her.

BOBBI
Why are adults this way? You hide
things from us, lie to us, but what
you don't understand is we see it.
We dig it up and find it. Why do
you leave it for us to figure it
out on our own? -- Tell the truth
for once. -- Spill the beans.

Wendy breathes in deep.

EXT. HOSPICE -DAY

Justin skateboards to the entrance of a large family two-story home modified into a Hospice. He still wears the Letterman jacket.

He climbs the high porch to the entrance.

INT. HOSPICE -DAY

Justin enters pensively.

A spry 70 year old woman (BETSY) bounces by carrying groceries. She spins back to him and plops a bag in his arms.

BETSY
If you're here to volunteer, help
me with these groceries.

She races to the kitchen.

BETSY
There's more out back.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY - SOUND BOOTH - DAY

Wendy nods at the camera like she is taking testimony of being an accomplice to a crime.

WENDY
When you're young, you get so confused. You really don't know what love really is. When I heard Steve died in an accident, I knew in my heart I was to blame in some way.

BOBBI
Why, you weren't there?

WENDY
We all were there. Not only the truck driver, but Steve's Father, his team, me, the whispers, the hate, the pain, the love...I loved him too much and I hurt him.

BOBBI
I don't understand.

Wendy shakes her head and wipes a tear from her eye.

WENDY
I was hurt.

INT. HOSPICE - KITCHEN - DAY

Justin empties the final bag of groceries by handing Betsy a jar of Peanut Butter.

BETSY
Jack will only eat Skippy.

She puts the jar in the cupboard.

BETSY
I'm so glad the school sent a volunteer. We could sure use one here.

JUSTIN

The school didn't send me.

She studies him and proudly pats his shoulder.

BETSY

You did it on your own, God bless you. (she recognizes the jacket) My son had one just like this when he went to Fairfield.

JUSTIN

James?

BETSY

Why yes.

JUSTIN

That's why I'm here. -- Can I talk to him?

She gathers some food and exits the kitchen.

BETSY (O.S.)

You'll need to ask God for that.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY - SOUND BOOTH - DAY

Bobbi sits across from Wendy with the camera filming.

WENDY

Do you know James?

BOBBI

Steve's friend? -- I think Justin is interviewing him now.

WENDY

He's still here in town?...I thought he left Fairfield about the same time I did. (shrugs) Well, all three of us were the best of friends.

Bobbi shrugs.

BOBBI

What about him?

WENDY

You'll need to turn off the camera.

INT. HOSPICE - STAIRWELL - DAY

Justin follows at Betsy's heels going up the stairs.

JUSTIN

What do you mean? -- Is he dead?

BETSY

He's in heaven. Left this earth
bout twenty years to this day.

JUSTIN

He can't be.

Betsy turns on him.

BETSY

Why do you care about my boy so
much?

JUSTIN

Steve Waltz needs him.

Betsy studies him and spins back up the stairs.

BETSY

Steve died in an accident.

JUSTIN

No, he's a ghost in my house...his
house.

BETSY

Follow me.

HALL

They pass open bedrooms containing a variety of PATIENTS.

Betsy enters the final bedroom.

BEDROOM

Betsy sits down on the bed and faces a huge quilt adorning a
wall. It is covered with names, photos, and loving
remembrances.

Justin enters quizzically.

BETSY

(nodding to the quilt)
Do you know what that is?

He shakes his head.

BETSY
My son died of AIDS.

He stares blankly at the quilt.

BETSY
A disease that afflicted many gay
men took him away from us.

JUSTIN
Gay?

BETSY
It started in the gay community,
but it never was only a gay
disease. Unfortunately, many
ignorant people made the world
believe it. Victims inflicted by
AIDS would make these quilts as
loving memorials in remembrance of
the life they lived and raise
consciousness in the living of the
humanity lost.

Justin reads different parts of the quilt.

BETSY
If you look in the middle, in the
heart of the quilt, you'll find
what you are looking for. He
stitched it there himself before he
passed on.

In the middle of the quilt is a photograph stitched in the
fabric. Justin has seen it before.

STEVE AND JAMES LOVINGLY CELEBRATE A WRESTLING WIN.

A tear rolls down Justin's face.

Betsy hugs him tight. Justin sobs, hugging her tighter.

BETSY
They say your first love lasts
forever.

INT. FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY - SOUND BOOTH - DAY

Bobbi flips the camera off as Wendy paces the room.

WENDY
Steve broke up with me. I was
devastated, hurt.
(MORE)

WENDY (cont'd)

Embarrassed in front of my friends,
or what I thought were friends. All
of a sudden it wasn't Steve, James
and Wendy. It became only Steve and
James.

Bobbi's mouth drops.

WENDY

I don't know if they ever had sex,
but I know Steve and I never did.
And that confirmed it for me...I
planted rumors that James was gay.
Silly rumors that touched off,
lighted the fuse for the whole
school. The Coach kicked James off
the wrestling team. The Coach
thinking he had a gay son, tried to
literally exercise the demon out of
Steve. He was always on Steve to be
the wrestler and son he always
wanted. His practices became
tortures for Steve.

BOBBI

The attic?

Wendy cocks her head with teary eyes.

WENDY

I remember him saying he had this
place. If he built it, it was
Steve's hiding place from his Dad.

BOBBI

Why did you leave?

WENDY

James almost died in the hospital. -
- He was beaten up.

BOBBI

James?

WENDY

The Coach had Steve's teammates
bloody him up. It was horrible.
Everybody knew it, even Steve.
After James went to live with his
Grandmother, Steve was never
himself. He was never an outcast at
school, everybody adored him, but
he made Fairfield the outcast. Not
sure if that makes sense?

Bobbi nods her head.

WENDY

My conscience couldn't take it anymore. -- I asked my Mom if I could live with my Dad. I believe my conscience is what brought me back here.

BOBBI

He still loves you.

WENDY

Oh how I loved him.

BOBBI

He wants you to be there tonight.

WENDY

Where?...Why?

BOBBI

Old Highway Nine. -- I don't know why, but I think you owe it to him.

INT. HOSPICE - BEDROOM - DAY

Justin and Betsy hold hands on the bed staring at the quilt.

BETSY

They were like two playful pups in a pound. James...THEY were both so happy. I knew there was more there than just friendship, but I let it go on. I always believed parenthood was providing a safe environment for your child's happiness. (sigh) Back then Fairfield wasn't that environment. People's narrow views and prejudices can destroy a good spirit.

JUSTIN

I'm going to help Steve get to heaven tonight. Do you want to come?

She rises as Justin's cellular rings.

BETSY

I've forgiven this town ages ago. (she messes up his hair) I'm sure my son would enjoy Steve's company.

INT. COACH'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

The Coach picks at his TV dinner at the big lonely table.

Clock reads 9:00 PM.

KNOCK ON DOOR (O.S.)

He answers the door.

The Sheriff stands before him.

SHERIFF

Jimmy O'Fallon has gone AWOL.

COACH

So?

SHERIFF

You know what tonight is.

COACH

Of course I know.

SHERIFF

He's still wearing his anklet. We GPS'd him. He's in Fairfield...in your old neighborhood. You KNOW where he's going.

The Coach grabs his school jacket.

EXT. FOREST PATH - NIGHT

Three flashlights bounce along as Jamie and Eddie lead. Jimmy trails them.

JIMMY

Isn't it easier taking the road.

JAMIE

Duh.

EDDIE

They closed it because of you.

JIMMY

Oh.

EXT. STEVE'S BACKYARD PORCH - NIGHT

Brian flips on the flashlight as Joyce wraps a scarf around her neck.

JOYCE
Isn't there another way to this
highway nine?

Brian shakes his head.

BRIAN
We'll be alright. -- Bobbi said to
stay on the path.

JOYCE
We don't know what's out there.

BRIAN
Our son.

In Justin's bedroom window, Steve watches over them.

EXT. STEVE'S DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

The Sheriff's car pulls up with the Coach and the Sheriff exiting. Both of them carry shotguns and flashlights.

COACH
They ever find that Justin boy?

Sheriff nods.

SHERIFF
Father called, said they found the
kid at a friend's.

They walk behind the house.

COACH
Kid like that shouldn't have
friends.

The Sheriff studies him while putting a stokie in his mouth.

A BLACK FIGURE darts in the woods.

They urgently raise their shotguns.

SHERIFF
What was that?

COACH

Shhh...

They peer in the woods.

A FAINT FLASHLIGHT BEAM FLICKERS IN THE WOODS.

COACH

Somebody is on the path.

They enter the woods.

EXT. OLD HIGHWAY 9 - NIGHT

Moon beams cut through the boney canopy of Oaks.

Eddie, Jamie, and Jimmy walk out on the asphalt.

JIMMY

Now what?

Jamie lights up her Strawberry Shortcake watch.

JAMIE

Ten thirty-eight.

EDDIE

The accident occurred a little before or after eleven. Jimmy, do you remember anything?

Jimmy leans against a tree rubbing the ankle that holds the anklet.

JIMMY

I'm taking a big risk. -- I can do a lot of time for this.

JAMIE

He said, to bring them all.

JIMMY

The ghost?

Eddie nods as Jimmy stands facing the incline.

JIMMY

I was coming down from up there...everything is overgrown now.

VOICES and FLASH LIGHT BEAM come from the woods.

EDDIE
They're coming. -- Hide.

They scurry to the other side of the road in the dirt.

Bobbi and Wendy come through the trees with flashlights.
Bobbi holds her camera.

JAMIE
It's Bobbi.

EDDIE
Who's with her?

She rises up waving to them.

JAMIE
OVER HERE!

EDDIE
The Librarian?

They come over.

BOBBI
Everybody this is Wendy. -- Better
known as Steve's girl friend.

All their mouths drop.

JIMMY
Wonderful. -- Next you will invite
his parents. Let's all party.

WENDY
(to Jimmy)
Who are you?

BOBBI
Wendy, I'm assuming this is Jimmy
O'Fallon. The guy...

JIMMY
Alright already. I'm the fucking
killer alright. Let's move on.

BOBBI
(searching)
Where's Justin?

The wind begins to churn the leaves on the highway. Branches
sway.

JAMIE
What's happening?

EXT. FOREST PATH - NIGHT

Brian and Joyce plod through the woods.

A BLACK FIGURE races around in the woods with a chilled wind.

Joyce shivers.

JOYCE
Did you see that?!

BRIAN
Let's keep moving.

He glances over his shoulder noticing flashlights coming behind them making ground.

Brian pushes her.

BRIAN
Keep moving. -- Don't look back.

EXT. FOREST PATH - NIGHT

The Coach and the Sheriff barrel down trampling everything in their path.

COACH
Should have killed that son-a-bitch when I had the time.

SHERIFF
Keep your cool Jack.

COACH
Bastard killed my kid.

The Sheriff stops quizzically watching the back of the Coach.

COACH
C'mon Sheriff, you are in on this too.

EXT. OLD HIGHWAY 9 - NIGHT

Leaves swirl in the air and some limbs break in the wind.

The highway sign warbles.

Jamie, Eddie, Jimmy, Wendy, and Bobbi hunker down from the wind.

Bobbi scans the scene with her camera.

A BLACK FIGURE stands, untouched by the wind, on the other side.

From behind him, Joyce and Brian block the wind with their arms. Brian shines a flashlight on his back.

JOYCE

It's Justin! Justy?!

The BLACK FIGURE moves to the middle of the road.

A LARGE RUMBLING MOTOR (O.S.)

JAMIE

What is that?

Their faces whiten in horror.

JIMMY

It's me.

TREE LIMBS CRACK (O.S.)

HUGE BEAMS OF LIGHT COME DOWN THE ROAD.

Joyce and Brian are a few feet from the road.

Brian grabs her shoulder.

BRIAN

It's not Justin.

From behind them, the Coach and the Sheriff produce shotguns.

COACH

Stop this.

Justin comes out of hiding with the letterman jacket on.

Steve and Justin are a few feet between each other.

Steve stares into Justin's soul.

STEVE WALTZ

You need to save yourself.

JUSTIN

I won't let them kill you.

A MOTOR RUMBLES with thunderous intensity.

MORE LIMBS BREAK AND CRACK.

The camera is thrown from Bobbi's hands and it rolls breaking into pieces down the road.

The Coach and the Sheriff freeze in horror.

Steve and Justin face off in the middle of Highway Nine.

JUSTIN

I won't let it happen.

STEVE WALTZ

Justin, you don't understand. I wasn't murdered... I was alone.

Justin's face is pale with a sudden realization. He is frozen in fear.

TWO TREMENDOUS LIGHT BEAMS close down on the road.

Suddenly, Justin is tackled by his Father off the road.

Steve looks straight into the heart of his Father. The Coach's face is painfully blank.

JOYCE

SOMEBODY DO SOMETHING! -- SAVE HIM!

SHERIFF

WE CAN'T... HE'S ALREADY DEAD.

Steve faces the oncoming phantom truck.

Justin and his Dad roll next to Bobbi and spin to watch.

Justin's eyes widen in terror.

Wendy holds her mouth and she begins to cry.

WENDY

STEVE! NOOO...

She tries to rise but is held down by Jimmy.

Eddie covers Jamie, protecting her.

Deliberately, Steve sits cross-legged facing the giant rumbling motor of the truck.

He turns his head to Justin and mouths "Thank you."

To Wendy he mouths "I love you."

GHOSTLY TIRES SCREECH.

A bright gust of light erupts from the road and carries Steve's body in it's rumbling power.

With falling debris, the light trails down the road and climbs to the sky. It diminishes into a ray of light streaking over the tree line to the stars.

Darkness and silence consumes the forest again as everybody rises.

Jimmy holds a sobbing Wendy.

Eddie and Jamie rise up with his arm around her.

Justin is sobbing in Bobbi's arms.

Joyce and Brian stand over them.

Justin looks up at his mother all teary eyed. He goes to her waiting arms.

Brian puts his arm around Bobbi.

The Coach kneels on the other side with his head bowed. His body convulses from pain.

FLASH BACK BEGINS:

BLUE AND RED POLICE LIGHTS strobe the accident scene.

The semi truck is off the road.

A YOUNG JIMMY leans against a tire sobbing.

Beer cans lay beside him.

His cute, golden lab, WEISER, lovingly licks the tears from his face.

STEVE'S MANGLED BODY LIES IN THE WOODS.

The YOUNG SHERIFF shines a flashlight on his bloody masked face.

The YOUNG COACH kneels down glaring at his dead son.

He begins to pull the mask from his Son's head.

YOUNG SHERIFF
You can't do that Coach.

The Coach meets his eyes in tears.

YOUNG COACH
I won't allow this to happen. -- My
boy doesn't give up...

He pulls off the mask and puts it in his jacket pocket.

YOUNG COACH
...he was murdered, by that son of
a bitch.

FLASH BACK ENDS.

The Sheriff puts his hand on the Coach's shoulder.

SHERIFF
It's over Coach.

COACH
It'll...never...be over...for me.

Darkness surrounds them as we raise up through the trees over
the forest canopy. The stars twinkle in the night.

The mangled camera lies in pieces on the asphalt.

EXT. STEVE WALTZ'S HOUSE - FRONT PORCH - NIGHT

Justin (17) nods his head while toking on the joint.

The JACK-O'-LANTERN is fading off with the melted candle.

JUSTIN (V.O.)
Not your typical ghost story huh?

He inhales on the last bit of joint.

JUSTIN (V.O.)
Found out pot calms me down better
than any of those medications.
Don't tell my mom though.

He rises to his feet.

JUSTIN (V.O.)
Sheriff? Before he joined the Good
Sam Club he exonerated Jimmy.
Finally did the right thing. Hell,
Jimmy started dating Wendy...didn't
last long. Weird chemistry there --
like mixin wine with beer.

(MORE)

JUSTIN (V.O.) (cont'd)
 Jimmy did get a little
 Weiser...another dog.

He nods to the house.

JUSTIN (V.O.)
 The house? We bought it after the
 Coach retired to Florida. I love
 this house. -- It's my home. -- Our
 home...Steve's home.

KIDS RUN AWAY FRIGHTENED as Four Teenagers walk to his front
 yard.

Bobbi (17), she is still big-boned and as beautiful as ever.
 Her arm is around another GIRL (18).

She picks at Justin's letterman jacket.

BOBBI
 What's this Chuck?

JUSTIN
 Gotta live up to the legend. --
 Scare the kids.

JAMIE
 At least you aren't wearing a mask
 anymore.

Eddie (17), is a handsome clear skinned athlete and Jamie
 (17), well, she is stunningly cute in her ever trendy
 clothes.

Eddie has his arm lovingly around her.

They grab some Snickers from the still full bowl.

BRIAN (O.S.)
 Movie is about to start.

Justin opens the door for them and looks back at the front
 yard.

JUSTIN
 Halloween ritual. -- Every
 Halloween we watch a scary
 movie...our documentary. I'd let
 you watch it, but it was made by
 fourteen year olds. -- Dad digs it,
 he ended up doing the editing on
 it. But it really does suck.
 (shrugs) At least we got a "C".

JOYCE (O.S.)
C'mon Justy!

ALL TEENAGERS (O.S.)
(mocking)
JUSTY!

Justin shakes his head with a smirk.

JUSTIN
One thing I learned from Steve that
night... nothing is worth killing
yourself over. Life is good. --
Stay alive.

Door closes.

From the window, they all sit in front of the TV. Joyce puts
a bowl of popcorn in Brian's lap.

On the television screen...Cheerleaders perform a cheer.

CHEER LEADERS
"We are the Fairfield High
Freaks..."

FADE TO BLACK:

THE END.